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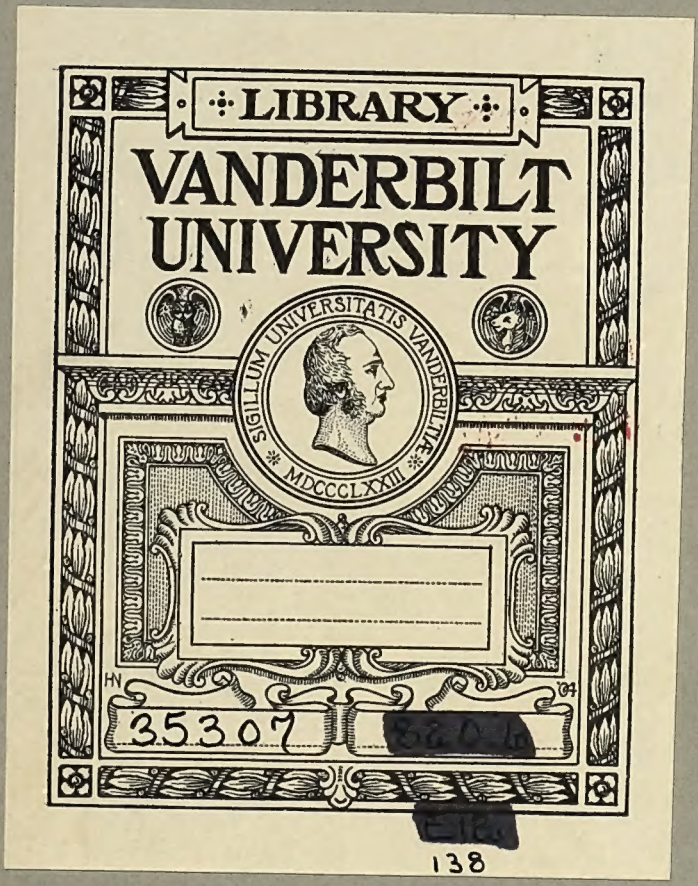

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The Coventry Leet Book:

OR

Mayor's Register.

Early English Text Society.

Original Series, No. 138.

1909.

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The Coventry Leet Book:

OR

Mayor's Register,

CONTAINING THE RECORDS OF THE CITY

Court Leet

OR

View of Frankpledge,

A.D. 1420–1555,

WITH DIVERS OTHER MATTERS.

TRANSCRIBED AND EDITED BY

MARY DORMER HARRIS,

AUTHOR OF "LIFE IN AN OLD ENGLISH TOWN: A HISTORY OF COVENTRY COMPILED FROM OFFICIAL RECORDS."

PART III.

LONDON:

PUBLISHED FOR THE EARLY ENGLISH TEXT SOCIETY

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ADDITIONS AND ERRATA.

p. 628, note 1, for "the *Boke of Husbandrie* is sometimes attributed to him" read "the *Boke of Husbandrie*, sometimes attributed to him, appears to have been the work of his elder brother, John Fitzherbert, Lord of the Manor of Norbury from 1483 to 1531" (Sir Ernest Clarke).

p. 781, for "Joh. Warde, mercer" read "Joh. Waide, mercer."

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FOREWORD.

To the historian of social life this—the third and concluding—portion of the Leet Book proper will be of the greatest interest. It is true that, unlike its immediate predecessor, Part III has few of those vivid personal touches concerning the doings and character of the citizens, or the movements of royal folk, such as gave so distinctive a feature to the episode of Laurence Saunders or the chronicles of the Wars of the Roses.[1] As a set-off to this deficiency, however, local historians and philologists will be inclined to attach great value to the frequent occurrence of familiar names and of rare words, special characteristics of the formal and business-like entries of which Part III mainly consists. On the whole, therefore, the matter of this issue is so instructive that, though the manner of it is rather precise like the lawyer's than discursive like the chronicler's, this volume must be regarded as of equal, though divergent, value with that of its predecessors.

It is impossible in these few words to deal with the economic questions which beset England between 1496 and 1555. They must wait for the more ample space of the Introduction in the concluding volume. But one salient problem for the town-dweller appears with startling frequency in this volume and cannot be quite passed over—it is the adjustment of the opposing claims of the monopolist craftsman within the town and the stranger at the gate, a matter further complicated by the intrusion of the town employer and consumer.[2] The stranger appeared as workman, craftsman, buyer and seller, and found his liberty restricted in every capacity. As a workman, possibly residing in a neighbouring village, he competed with the native craftsman, carpenter,[3] weaver[4] and fuller[5]; as a buyer he came into conflict with the native purchasers of raw material, yarn,[6]

[1] See, however, for survivals of this literary spirit Roger à Lee's election, pp. 619–21; Henry VII's death, pp. 625–6; and Walgrave and Whitley, pp. 626–7.

[2] See p. 795. [3] p. 807. [4] p. 661 *et passim*.
[5] p. 704. [6] p. 791.

malt,[1] hides[2] and tallow[3]; and as a seller with the native purveyers of victual.[4] The orders of Leet concerned with the making and unmaking of the craft of butchers, and with the admission and exclusion of the "Warwick" members of that calling, are among the most instructive entries later scribes have preserved for us.

Though the information we gather from these pages concerns men rather locally than nationally famous, circumstances have so combined to keep their memories fresh that the mere mention of many is a thing that adds interest to the record. Such are the names of Bond,[5] Ford,[6] Pisford,[7] Wheatley,[8] who, from the permanence of their charitable foundations—associated as they are with Tudor buildings of rare beauty—have gained at least a local immortality; while the memories of Wade,[9] Nethermyll,[10] Swyllyngton,[11] are likewise recalled by tomb or effigy in S. Michael's. The names of William Hopkyns,[12] Richard Sewall,[13] Edward Damporte[14]—or Davenport—strike a familiar chord by reason of our acquaintance with the doings of their better-known collaterals or descendants, a remark applying with particular propriety to William Shelley,[15]—not a Coventry man though he served as recorder of the city—whose family a later scion has made famous all over the world.

Another recorder sprang from the historic Warwickshire line of Throckmorton[16]; another, Antony Fitzherberde—or Fitzherbert[17]—a relative of the Willoughbys of Middleton, was famous as a legal writer; while a third, also with local connections, Edward Saunders,[18] is mentioned in the pages of the martyrologist, Foxe, and gains, through his brother Laurence, a certain interest. The author of the *Acts and Monuments of Martyrs*, whose wife's father and early patron was one Randall[19] of Coventry, refers also to other citizens, Christopher Waren[20]—or Warren—and Thomas Ryley,[21] in connection with Glover, the martyr, and to Richard Hopkyns.[22]

When we come to consider special words we note the unusual meaning, rare or early occurrence, of bowet,[23] strike,[24] forest iron,[25]

[1] p. 637. [2] pp. 585, 689 *et passim*. [3] p. 650.
[4] pp. 717, 780, 795, 803. [5] p. 588. [6] p. 582. [7] p. 600.
[8] p. 779. [9] Chris. Wade, p. 694. [10] p. 634. [11] p. 642.
[12] p. 598. [13] p. 724. [14] p. 796. [15] p. 635.
[16] p. 806. [17] p. 628. [18] p. 764.
[19] The name of William Randle occurs p. 721. Possibly this is Foxe's patron.
[20] p. 811. [21] *ib.* [22] *ib.* See also Astelyn, p. 694.
[23] p. 588. [24] p. 657. [25] p. 745.

piece-work,[1] and maystyme.[2] Botomes[3] has a Shakesperean interest. Among technicalities of the cloth trade we can only infer the meanings of bondyng[4] and dobbyn,[5] while wronghalf[6] eludes inquiry. The use of the words ardolf,[7] targes[8]—in connection with sport—and grand warrant[9] in this volume is, as far as I have been able to learn, unique.

Some miscellaneous matter, together with the introduction, glossary and index, will form a fourth volume.

[1] pp. 773, 792. [2] p. 787. [3] p. 796. [4] p. 639. [5] p. 640.
[6] *ib.* [7] p. 719. [8] p. 690. [9] p. 684.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

"Couentre." Oct. 6.

[1]¶ [V. f. p. held on Thursday after Michaelmas, 12 Hen. VII.]

Jury.

Ric. Lee, Joh. Gauge, Joh. Thrumpton, Ric. Braytoft, Will. Shore, Hen. Marler, Tho. Bailly, Will. Roweley, Tho. Chircheman, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Will. Hopkyns, Ric. Smyth, Tho. Bonde, Will. Taillour, Will. fforth, Geff. Arthern, Tho. Padland, Joh. Gryme, Ed. Hulcote, Joh. Mathewe, Joh. Hadon, Rog. Mason, Joh. Stronge.

Sheriffs.

[Edm. Barbour, Will. ffletcher, sherman.]

Orders of leet. Litigation forbidden.

[Ordained] that no maner persone dwellyng within this Cite frohensfurth vexe, troble, assaute nor varie with eny his Neighbours withoute þe Citie in eny ffeire, market, or other place be measne of þe lawe feynyng matier ayenst hym or other wyse be which he myght take eny hurte in his persone, name or goodes, vppon peyn to lese at euery default C s. without pardon to þe vse of þe Condite to be apploied.

or 100*s.* fine.

The purchase of hides wholesale.

At þis lete were Joh. Tedde & Hobley presented that they had bought & sold in gret hides contrarie to þe ordenaunces peruppon made etc.[2]

Grant of land to the common sergeant.

At þis lete was graunte to Will. Nashe þe Grey-fre[r]-gate & ij gardeyns duryng his life, vt [p]*atet* in filaciis.[3]

HEN. MARLER, MAYOR, 1496–7.

"Couentre."

[4]¶ [Election of a new mayor in Coventry on Saturday, Dec. 3. 12 Hen. VII. before Will. Roweley, formerly mayor of the said town and holding the place (loco (*sic*) tenente) of the office of mayoralty of the said town,—that office being vacant by the death of Joh. Dove formerly mayor of the seid town, who died (diem suum clausit extremum) on Saturday Nov. 26 last preceding, and Ed. Barbour and Will. fflecchcr, bailiffs of the said town.[5]]

Electors.

Joh. Gauge, Ric. Braytoft, Joh. Thrumpton, Will. Shore, Tho. Baylly, Rob. Colman, Ric. Lee, Tho. Churchman, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Will. Hopkyns, Ric. Alen, Will. Tayllour, Joh. Gryme, Gal. Arthern, Tho. Maydford, Tho. Padland, Ed. Hulcote, Ric. Nores, Rob. Bowyer, Joh. Throughley, Tho. Grove, Joh. Whythed, Joh. Sissell.

[1] leaf 278, back. [2] *v.* p. 557.
[3] As in the files [of the Leet more fully] appears.
[4] leaf 279. [5] "iuxta etc." follows.

[They elect H. Marler mayor until the next feast of the Purification. And this interval shall be accounted to him for a whole year, and for the remainder of his life he shall have as great privilege & liberty as he who has occupied the office for two years.]

Qui eligerunt (*sic*) Hen. Marler Maiorem, vsque *festum* Pur*ificacionis* B. Marie virginis tunc p*roximo* sequens. Et tempus illud stabit sibi p*ro* vno anno integro, et decet*ero* dur*ante* vita sua h*abebit* tam g*rande* p*reuile*gium & lib*er*tatem in om*nibus* sicut & ille qui offici*um* illud p*er* duos annos[1] integros in Ciuitate p*redicta* p*reantea* occupauit.

WILL. FORD OR FORTH, MAYOR, 1497.

"Couentre." Jan. 25.

¶ [[2] Election of officers.]

Will. Roweley, Joh. Gauge, Ric. Braytoft, Joh. Thrumpton, Will. Shore, Tho. Bailly, Rob. Colman, Ric. Lee, Tho. Chircheman, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Ric. Alen, Will. Hopkyns, Joh. Gryme, Geff. Arthern, Tho. Maideford, Edw. Hulcote, Tho. Padland, Ric. Nores, Rob. Bowyer, Joh. Throughley, Tho. Grove, Joh. Whitehed, Joh. Sissell.

Officers.

[m. Will. fforth; cor. Rob. Topclyf; ch. Will. Bromley, Joh. Smyth, peauterer; w. Joh. Clerk, Groc*er*, Joh. Saunders, capper; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Joh. Toures.]

SOLDIERS.

"xlviij^{ti}." Mar. 4, 1497.

M*em.* that þe iiijth day of March [12 Hen. VII] the Maire assemblyng his brether to þe nombr*e* of xlviij because of a com*m*aundem*ent* direct to the*m* fro þe kyng*es* grace be p*r*iue signet to be acertayned howe many p*er*sones fensibly arraied at þe kyng*es* wag*es* his grace shuld haue oute of þis Cite to attend vppon his grace in his viage roiall towards Scotland, at which tyme was g*r*aunted xl able p*er*sone[s] w*ith* a Captaign then named, Tho. Maidtford,[3] to be fensibly arraied w*ith* jaket*es* & a standard to awayte vppon his grace at his wag*es*, whech shuld be p*re*pared at þe cost of Craft*es* in þis Cite as foloweth.

There accompany the king on his voyage to Scotland

"40 souldiers set forth by Companys."

[Mercers and fishmongers 5 men; drapers and skinners 5 men; dyers and barbours 3 men; smiths and cooks 2 men; girdlers 1 man; weavers, bowyers and fletchers 2

[1] Marler had served previously, *v.* p. 503. [2] leaf 280.
[3] The same man who was wounded at Bosworth, *v.* p. 532.

men; whittawers, glovers and tanners 3 men; tailors and shearmen 3 men; corvisers 3 men; wiredrawers "*with* Humf. Belchier, Will. Ou*er*ton, Ric. Crosseley & Wilk*es*" 1 man; wrights, pinners, tilers 1 man; bakers, millers, "with Joh. Pachet and Hen. Broune," 3 men; walkers and cappers 2 (?) men[1]; butchers 3 men; cardmakers, painters, saddlers and masons, "with Rop*ers*, berebruers and Hen. Crosse," 2 men; "fforreyns" 2 men.]

THE FIFTEENTH.

[2]*Mem.* that at þe p*ar*liam*ent* holden at Westm*ynstre* [Jan. 16, 12 Hen. VII] there was there g*r*aunted to þe kyng*es* grace towardes his viage roiall into Scotland ij hole xv^es^ & a subsidy amountyng to þe so*mm*e of ij hole xv^es^; þe first xv & þe half subsidy to be paiable þe last day of May then next folowyng; and the other xv & half subsidy to be paide the viij day of Nouembre then next folowyng, yf þe kyng*es* grace went not into Scotland, & vppon o*þer* condic*i*ons as in the acte *þer*of made more pleynly appereth. The seid ij xv to be levied aft*er* the olde vsage & custome vsed to levie & pay xv^es^. And to þe subsidy amountyng to þe so*mm*e of ij hole xv^es^ there shuld no p*er*sone pay onlesse he myght spend xx s. be ȝere ou*er* all charg*es*, or els *þat* he be worth in goodes x marc' ou*er* all charg*es* not accomptyng his plate nor houshold. Which first hole xv^e^ & þe half subsidye was paide at þe day assygned & þe other half subside was p*ar*doned, & þe ij^de^ hole xv^e^ was paiable as appereth *proximo folio*.[3]

1497.

Two fifteenths and a subsidy. Half payable May 31;

half Nov. 8.

Here folowen the names of þe Collectours of þe first xv^e^ paiable þe last day of May a*nno* xij° H. vij.

May 31, 1497.

[For the names of wards,[4] hamlets[5] and sums[6] *v.* p. 406–7. The collectors' names are missing.]

[1] ij d. = 2d. in MS. ? a mistake. There are 39 men without any supplied by the walkers and cappers. [2] leaf 280, back.

[3] The first subsidy is given, leaf 280, back; the second (proximo folio) *i. e.* leaf 281.

[4] "Wel-strete" given instead of "Bischop-strete."

[5] "Asthull" and "Wodend" are not expressly named.

[6] On p. 407 Weston is assessed at 2s. Here "Weston iiij s. *pro* Boyes-waste" occurs; but a smear over the first two strokes of the iiij s. looks like an intended deletion. On leaf 281 it reads "Weston *pro* Boyswast iiij s." No total from wards or hamlets on leaf 280, back.

Nov. 8, 1497. [1] Here followen the names of the Collectours[2] of a hole xv paiable[3]

[See above for names of wards, hamlets and sums. Total from the wards £50 0s. 8d. No total from hamlets.]

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Couentre." Apr. 6. [4] ¶ [V. f. p. held before Will. fforth, m., Ed. Barbour, Will. fflecchcr, b., on Thursday after the close of Easter, 12 Hen. VII.]

Jury. Will. Roweley, Hen. Marler, Ric. Braitoft, Joh. Gauge, Tho. Baylly, Joh. Thrumpton, Will. Shore, Ric. Lee, Joh. Wygston, Tho. Chircheman, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Tho. Bonde, Will. Taillour, Will. Hopkyns, Geff. Arthern, Tho. Maideford, Tho. Padland, Joh. Hadon, Edw. Hulcote, Ric. Jakson, Rob. Chambre, Will. Bromley, Joh. Saunders, Capper.

[5] "ffor the Cundites."[5] [6] "No brewer to fetch water, nor no pipes for privat vses." Informers to have 8d. reward. They woll & ordeyn that no bruer nor Malt maker nor oþer person frohensfurth fet eny watir at eny of þe Cundites within þis Cite to brue ne to stepe, but only for dressyng of mete & drynk, [or 20s. fine, half to the sheriffs, half to the cunduit at every default.] And þat prouision be made be Maister Maire & his Counceill that grates & lokkes be made to loke with all the Cundites in þe nyght, & persones named to kepe þe lokkes & to vnlok hit in þe mornyng; & to lok hit at certen tymes as can be thought resonable; and þat the Chamberleyns & wardeyns with þe comien seriant within viij daies next suyng make serche yf eny suspirals[7] be in eny house, garden or other grounde within þis Cite. & that knowen they furthwith to be closed & stopped & non such to be suffered hereafter in no wyse nor for no money; and that euery person that hereafter can espie or prove eny persone offend contrarie to þe premissez & woll shewe hit to Maister Maire, or þe alderman of his warde, haue for his so shewyng & provyng viij d. parte of þe seid forfeit etc.

[1] leaf 281. In both cases of the collection I have sacrificed chronology to subject matter. [2] Not given.
[3] Blank. [4] leaf 279. [5–5] Contemporary gloss.
[6] Later hand. [7] = openings.

"Betwixt Tanners & bochours ordinances."

[Ordained] that þe ordenaunce before made þat no bochour shull sell his hides in gret sale shuld stand in effect & be executory;[1] and þat þe Tanners within þis Cite haue fre liberte to bye at all daies & tyme after þe hide is of þe bestes bak, so þat hit lye in þe market iij houres; and þat no straunger by no maner hides but on þe market daies, þat is to sey, Tewesday, Thursday & Seturday; and that frohensfurth nother on þe parte of þe Tanners, ne of þe bochours, ther be eny confederacy or priuate ordenaunce made amonges either of þe seid Craftes contrarie to þe ordenaunces afore made be lete, & which myght be hur[t]-full to ether of þe seid Craftes, or contrarie to þe comien wele, [or 20s. fine for every default, half to the sheriffs, and half to the cunduit.]

Hides to lie three hours in the market.

[Ordained] that Buttur & Johan his doughter shuld fynde suerte of theire gode demeasnyng hereafter.

[2] "ffor Buttour and his doughtour." [2]

[Ordained] at þe pertitiçion of þe hole ffeliship of smythes that no man shuld set vp within this Cite to occupie be hym-self vnto þe tyme he were agreed with þe maistre of þe Craft, & to pay for his fyn xx s., hit to be paide in iij 3eres be even porcions.

[2] "For þe Smythes." [2]

[3]¶ [V. f. p. held on Tuesday before S. Edward King and Confessor, 13 Hen. VII.]

"Couentre." Oct. 10.

Hen. Marler, Joh. Gauge, Ric. Braytoft, Joh. Thrumpton, Will. Shore, Ric. Coke, Tho. Bailly, Tho. Chircheman, Ric. Lee, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Tho. Bonde, Ric. Smyth, Will. Taillour, Will. Hopkyns, Joh. Duddesbury, Geff. Arthern, Edw. Hulcote, Tho. Padland, Joh. Darlyng, Tho. Maidford, Ric. Jakson, Will. Bromley, Joh. Saunders.

Jury.

[Tho. Grene, vyntoner, Will. Deister, Grasyer.]

Sheriffs.

[Ordained] that all maner persones that hereaftur woll haue the belles to ryng after þe decesse of eny their frendes they shall pay for a pell ryngyng with all þe belles ij s., xx d. þerof to þe Chirchewark[5] & iiij d. to þe Clerkes; and yf he woll haue but iiij belles xvj d., xij d. to the Chirch & iiij d. to þe Clerkes. And as for iij belles euery person þat will haue them to paye but iiij d. to þe Clerkes.[6]

[2] "For ryngyng of belles." [2]

[4] "2s. a peale 5 belles, xx d. a peale 4 belles." [4]

[1] See p. 557. [2–2] Contemporary gloss.
[3] leaf 279, back. [4–4] In later hand. [5] *i. e.* repairs.
[6] The church affairs are evidently managed by the corporation.

[2] "For the Cundites."[2]

[Ordained] that euery persone inhabityng within þe wardes of þe Croschepyng, Smythford, Brodeȝate, Sponstrete, Erle-strete, & Bailly-lane hauyng & openyng a hall durre shall paye quarterly towardes the reparacion of þe Cundites j d.,[1] euery shop ob., euery Cotage ob., the first day of payement to be-gyn at þe fest of Cristmas nex[t] comyng. And who-so denyeth payement of þat he is taxed, he to be distreined be þe Gaderers þerto assigned for the double þat he is taxed; and þe seid Gaderes to haue euery of them for theire labour euery quarter iiij d.

1*d.* from every hall door.

Here folowen the names of þe Gaderes thei assigned at þe seid lete :—

Collectors of the rate.

Croschepyng. John Peyntour, Ric. Stevenson.
Erle-strete. Hen. Hynde & Joh. Bradbury.
Brode-ȝate. Joh. Clerk, Rog. Bromley.
Bailly-lane. Ric. Shore, Ric. Garton.
Smythford. Ric. Baron, Will. Alen.
Spon-strete. Tho. Gates, Mores Smyth, Joh. Eyburn.

[2] "For þe Comien Ryver and stretes."[2]

[Ordained] that all maner persones hauyng grounde adioynyng to þe Ryuers of þis Cite that they sufficiently let clense þe seid Ryuers before theire groundes betwix þis and þe fest of seynt Marten next comyng [or 6s. 8d. fine] þat to be levied oppon euery person not perfourmyng þe seid ordenaunce be þe comien seriant & Crier for the tyme beyng, and to þe vse of þe Cundite; and they to haue for their labour of euery vj s. viij d. forfetyd xij d. And after þe Ryuer is so clensed euery man frothensfurth to kepe hit clene before his grounde, vppon þe seid peyn. And that euery persone takyng eny persone vppon his grounde beryng eny filth into þe Ryver, or if he fynde hym [blotted and illeg.] þat he haue cast into þe ryuer, then such person that taketh such offender haue auctorite be þis present lete to distreign such offendour, or take plege; and þat distresse or plegge to kepe vnto þe tyme he haue made satisfacion towardes þe clensyng of þe seid Ryuer, that to be demed be þe alderman of þe warde where such defalt shall hap to fall. And that all open & comien places as be adioynyng to þe seid Ryuer be sufficiently

The river to be cleansed, the fines to be levied by the common sergeant and the crier.

Informers may distrain upon offenders.

[1] "d" repeated. [2—2] Contemporary gloss.

made with pale or otherwyse þat no person may cast dong into þe Ryuers in such places. And that euery person euery Seturday fro hensfurth for euer let swepe the stretes before their groundes, & the dong furthwith to ber away. And yf eny person fayle eny Seturday in þat partie he to lose ij d. furthwith to be paide & gadered be þe comien seriant & Crier for the tyme beyng, which shall euery Sonday at afternoon & þe Munday go thurgh þe towne to ouerse that hit be kept continielly & wokely, the seid officers to haue j d. & þe oþer j d. to þe vse of þe Cundite. And yf eny person defendyng[1] refuse to pay ij d., & þat shewed to þe Maire for the tyme beyng be þe seid officers, then such person to paye iij d., half to them and half to þe Cundite. And also hit is ordeyned þat the seid officers fayle not wokely to ouerse & execute duely & truly þe premissez, vppon þe peyn to lese iiij d. for euery woke, that to be levied be the swirdberer & þe Meirs seriant, half to themself & half to þe Cundite.

The streets to be swept on Saturdays

or 2*d.* fine,

or on refusing 4*d.*

The officers are not to fail to make a weekly collection.

THE MAYOR'S ACCOUNTS.

[2]Mem. that Will. fforth, Mayor of þe Citie of Couentre, the Wensday next before þe fest of þe Purificacion of our Lady, the xiijth ȝer of the reign of kyng Henre þe vijth at Couentre aforeseid before Joh. Wygston, the Maister of þe Trinite Gilde, Hen. Marler, Joh. Gauge, Ric. Braytoft, Joh. Thrumpton, Will. Shore, Tho. Bailly, R. Colman, Ric. Lee, Tho. Chircheman, Rob. Grene, & Joh. Padland in þe Counceill-house in seynt Marie hall shewed & made a cler accompt of such money as he had resceyued þat ȝere to þe vse of þe Cite.

Jan. 31, 1498. The mayor

ffirst, he resceyued of Hen. Colyns, Bochour, for a fyn xl s. Item, of money gadered of dyuers persons in þe wardes of þis Cite for þe reparacion of þe Cundites viij li. Item, of Bakers & Bochours & other þat offended contrarie to þe ordynaunces[3] of þis Cite at dyuers tymes xxxix s. viij d.

received 40*s.* for a fine;

£8 0*s.* 0*d.* for the conduits;

fines £1 19*s.* 8*d.*

Summa totalis receyued xj li. xix s. viij d.

total £11 19*s.* 8*d.*

Of which somme was spent in lede & oder thynges

[1] denying. [2] leaf 280, back.
[3] A stroke of "n" missing.

Payments £10 0s. 0d. Balance £1 19s. 8d.

necessarie for reparacion of þe Cundites as the seid Maire there & then shewed openly before his seid Brethern more at large xli. & so þer rested vnspent xxxix s. viij d. Which somme of money the seid Maire then & there let put into a bag & left hit in þe Counceill house in þe Maires Bowet[1] ther.

He thus departed quit.

Et sic quietus recessit.

THO. BONDE, MAYOR, 1498.

"Couentre." Jan. 25.

[2] ¶ [Election of officers.]

Joh. Wygeston, Hen. Marler, Joh. Gauge, Ric. Braytoft, Joh. Thrumpton, Will. Shore, Ric. Coke, Tho. Baylly, Rob. Colman, Ric. Lee, Tho. Churchman, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Joh. Haddon, Will. Taillour, Tho. Maydeford, Tho. Padland, Ed. Hulcote, Will. Pysford, Joh. Dwall, Joh. Sissell, Joh. Smyth, Baker, Joh. Throughley, Ric. Nores.

Officers.

[m. Tho. Bonde; cor. Rob. Topclyff; ch. Hen. Perkyns, Dauid Chyrk, Coruiser; w. Ric. ffoxale, Joh. Norton, Capper; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Joh. Tours.]

THE BENEDICTINES' CHAPTER.

About July 2 the black monks hold a chapter here and go on procession.

[3] This 3ere the Chaptur of blak monkes was kept at Couentre aboute þe visitacion of our Lady. And many of them cam on the Seturday at nyght, & some on þe Morowe & taried there vnto Wensday; at which day they had a general procession. And they came forth at þe south durre in þe Mynstere & toke their wey thurgh the newe bildyng downe þe Bailly-lane. And the Maire & his Brethern in their scarlet Clokes with all the Craftes in theire best araye stode vnder þe Elme in Seynt Mighelles Chirch3ard. And all þe pensels[4] of þe Cite before them: whech pensels there went before the Crosse, & þe Maire with his Brethern & the Craftes stode styll till þe presidentes cam whom the Maire toke be þe handes & welcomed

The mayor and others stand under the elm,

and welcome them

[1] A box. Not given in this sense *N. E. D.*, which gives *bowet* = a lantern. But probably here the meaning is *box*, from F. boite, Mid. L. boeta.

[2] leaf 281. Another scribe, F. [3] Scribe B.

[4] = streamers.

them to town, & so folowed þe procession; which procession went down the Bailly-lane, & so forth as is vsuelly vsed on[1] seynt George day; & so into þe Priory; & there was a solempne sermon seyde, where the Maire there satte betwixt both presidentes, & after sermon doon they departed euery man to his loggyng & som with the Maire to dyner, as dyuers of them did before. And so the departed furth of þe Cite etc. and join the procession.

Be it had in mynde that ayenst their comyng the Maire satte as Clerk of þe market & made enquere of þe price of all maner vitailles & made a boke þerof; & set hit vp on þe south durre in þe Mynster like as is doon when the kynges grace or my lorde prynce cometh to þe Cite. And ouer þat let make serch to þe aldermen in euery warde in all þe hostries of þe Citie that horsemet & mannes-mete shuld be accordyng to þe sisse sette, and þat they shuld not sell hit to excessyue lucre. The mayor as clerk of the market makes a book of the price of victuals.

RECEPTION OF PRINCE ARTHUR.

[2]Mem. that this 3ere the Wensday the xvij day of Octobre anno xiiij° Regis H. vij, prince Arthur, the ffirst begoton son of kyng Henre the vij^th^, then beyng of þe age of xij 3eres & more, cam first to Couentre & there lay in þe priory fro Wensday unto þe Munday next suying, at which tyme he removed toward London. Ayenst whos comyng was þe Spon-strete-3ate[3] garnysshed with the ix worthy[s], and kyng Arthur then hauyng thus spech, as foloweth:— Oct. 17.

[King Arthur.] Hayle, prynce roiall, most amyable in sight! King Arthur promises that

Whom the Court eternall, thurgh prudent gouernaunce,[4]
Hath chosen to be egall ons to me in myght,
To sprede our name, Arthur, & actes to auaunce,
And of meanys victorious to have such habundaunce,
That no fals treitour, ne cruell tirrant,
Shall in eny wyse make profer to your lande.

[1] MS. son.
[2] leaf 281, back. Printed Sharp, *Mysteries*, 154–7, and Hardin Craig (E.E.T.S.), 116–18. I have adopted the form of stanza of the latter.
[3] MS. 3arte. [4] A stroke of "n" too few.

And rebelles all falce quarels schall eschewe,
the favour of Pallas shall help to subdue enemies.
Thurgh þe fere of Pallas, that favoreth your lynage
And all outward Enmyes laboreth to subdue,
To make them to do to yewe as to me dyd homage.
Welcome therfore, the solace & comfort of my olde age,
Prince pereless, Arthur, Icome of noble progeny,
To me & to youre Chambre with all þis hole companye!

And at the turnyng into þe Croschepyng before Maister Thrumpton's durre, stode þe barkers paiant well appareld, in which was the Quene of Fortune with dyuers other virgyns, whech quene has þis spech folowyng:—

Dame Fortune
[Queen of Fortune.] I am dame Fortune, quene called, full expedient
To Emprours & princes, prelates, with other moo
As Cesar, Hectour, & Fabius, most excellent,
Scipio, exalted Nausica, & Emilianus also,
Valerius, also Marchus, with sapient Cicero.
E and noble men, breuely the truth to conclude, all
My favour verily had, as storys maketh rehersall;

With-oute whom, sithen non playnly can prospere,
That in þis muitable lyfe as nowe procedyng,
I am come thurgh love. Trust me intiere
To be with yewe & yours Evirmore enduryng,
Prynce, most unto my pleasure of all þat ar nowe reynyng;
bids him welcome.
Wherfore, my nowne hert & best beloved treasure,
Welcome to þis youre Chaumbre of whom ye be inheriture.

And the Crosse in the Croschepyng was garnysshed, & wyne there rennyng, and angels sensyng & syngyng, with Orgayns and othere Melody etc.[1] And at þe Cundyt, ther was seynt George kyllyng the dragon, and seynt George had this speche folowyng:—

[1] Sharp, p. 156, quotes *Chamberlains' Accounts*, made up anno 1499, It. pd. for settyng of the posts in þe Croschepyng, when þe king (*sic*) was here, in gret ij s; it. for takyng down of þe same posts a-geyn x d; it. for pavyng in þe Cros-chepyng ther as þe posts stode of viij yards viij d.

[Saint George.] O most souer*a*ign lorde, be dy[vy]ne[1] provision to be — S. George
The ruler of cruell Mars & kyng Insuper*a*ble!
Ye reioyce my corage, trustyng hit to se,
That named am George, yo*u*r patron fauorable;
To whom ye ar & euer shal be so acceptable,
That in felde, or Cite, where-so-ever ye rayne
Shall I neuer fayle yewe, thus is my purpose playn.

To protect yo*u*r magnyficence myself I shall endevo*u*r,
In all thynges that yo*u*r highnes shall concerne,
More tenderly then I ȝit did ever;
Kyng, duke, yerle, lorde, or also berne,[2]
As ye be myn assistence in p*r*ocesse shall lerne,
Which thurgh yo*u*r vertue, most amorous knygh[t],
I owe to yo*u*r p*r*esence be due & very right.

Like-wyse as þis lady be grace I defended, — promises to preserve the prince, as he delivered the lady from the foul serpent.
That thurgh myschaunce chosen was to dye,
ffro this foule serpent whom I sore wonded;
So ye in distresse p*r*eserve ever woll I
ffro all parell and wyked veleny,
That shuld yo*u*r nȯble p*er*sone in eny wyse distrayn,
Which welcome is to þis yo*u*r Chambre & to me right fayn.

And this balet was song at þe Crosse: — A ballad.

Viuat le prynce Arthur.

Ryall p*r*ince Arthur,
Welcome nowe, tresur,
With all oure hole Cur,[3]
} to þis yo*u*r cite!

Sithen in vertue dere,
Lorde, ye haue no pere,
Of yo*u*r age tendre,
} as all we may see.

Cunyng requyred,
All hath contr*i*ved,
And so receyued—
} yo*u*r intelligence.

[1] Sharp suggests an omission, which does not appear in MS. Craig prints *divyne*.
[2] baron. [3] From F. cœur = heart.

That Yngland, all playn,
May nowe be right fayn } to theire extollence.
Yewe long to remayn,

Syng we þer foll all;
Also let us call } that he yewe defend!
God immortal To God Immortall

defend the prince! In this breve beyng
Youre astate supporting, } to your lyfes yend!
And vertue ay spredyng,

THE PRINCE AND LOCAL DISPUTES.

Oct. 18. A present to the prince. [1]And vppon Thursday in þe mornyng the Maire with his Brethern cam vnto þe princes Chambre and there presented hym with a gilt Cup to þe value of x marc', & C marc' of gold therin, which was gadered in þe x wardes accordyng as þe xv^te^ is.

Oct. 19. "Mayors complaint to prince Arthur of the prior, And on þe Morowe the Maire presented a bill to þe seid prince desiryng be þe same that he wold please to desire þe priour of Couentre to pay at his desire the Murage money which he had with-drawen þe space of xx yeres: and also shewed his grace be the same bill howe the Citezenis of

& of Bristoll, Chester,[2] Worcester, & Gloster." Couentre were trobled be there merchandisez in Bristoll, Gloucestre, & Worcestre & compelled to pay tholl & oþer customez contrarie to their liberteez. Vppon which bill lettres went out to Bristoll, Gloucestre & Worcestre desiryng be the same þat the seid Citezenis of Couentre myght passe fre without eny custome paying after their liberte, or els they to apper at London crastino S. Martini[3] þen next folowyng etc. And vppon þis þe priour & his Couent

A bond in £500 were bounde to my seid lord prince in v^c^ li. to abide þe awarde of my lordes of Lincoln & Couentre & oþer of þe Counceill of þe seid prince etc. and in like wyse the Maire & Cominalte bounde to þe seid prince in like some; þe transcript of which obligacion here ensueth. And the

as follows. obligacions both remaynen in þe kepyng of þe seid prince.

[Let all know by these presents that we Tho. Bande, mayor of the city of Coventry, Nouerint vniuersi per presentes nos, Thomam Bande, Maiorem Ciuitatis Couentrie, & eiusdem Communi-

[1] leaf 282. [2] An error. See p. 549. [3] The morrow of S. Martin.

and the community of the same, with unanimous consent and assent are held and firmly bound in £500 of legal English money to Arthur, Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall and Earl of Chester, the eldest son of the most illustrious Henry VII, King of England, France, and lord of Ireland, payable to the same prince or his attorney at All Saints (Nov. 1) next coming after the date of these presents; to make which payment well and faithfully we bind ourselves and our successors by these presents sealed with our common seal. Given on Oct. 21, 1498.]

tatem vnanimi[1] consensu & assensu teneri & firmiter obligari Arthuro, Illustrissimi Henrici septimi Regis Anglie & ffrancie & domini Hibernie primogenito, principi Wallie, duci Cornubie ac Comiti Cestrie in quingentis libris legalis monete Anglie soluendis eidem domino principi aut suo certo attornato in festo Omnium Sanctorum futuro post datam presencium; ad quam quidem solucionem bene & fideliter faciendam obligamus nos & successores nostros per presentes sigillo nostro communi sigillatas. Datum xxj° die Octobris a. r. r. Hen. septimi quartodecimo.

A controversy concerning the prior's murage having arisen,

The condicion of þis obligacion is such that whereas certayn trauers is dependyng betwixt þe withinbounden Maire & Cominalte on the on partie and þe priour & Couent of þe Monasterie of our Lady within þe Cite of Couentre within-specified on þe oþer partie of & for the Murage of the same Citie yf the seid Maire & Cominalte stand, obeye, & perfourme thawarde, rule and Jugement of þe reuerent ffadirs in God William, Bisshop of Lincoln,[2] president of þe prynces Counceill, John, Bysshop of Chestre[3] & other of the same Counceill of in and vppon the said trauerse so that þe seid lord president, Bisshop of Chestre, & other as aforeseid make awarde in the same be þe fest of seynt Andrewe next comyng after the date hereof that then þis obligacion to be voide or els to stand in streng[t]h & vertue.[4]

both the prior and the mayor agree to abide by arbitration.

Judgment to be delivered Nov. 30.

Vppon which obligacion sealed Ric. Braytoft, & Ric. Coke, late Maire of þe seid Cite, & Joh. Boteler, styward,

Braytoft and others go to London

[1] One stroke of "m" is missing.
[2] William Smith, formerly Bishop of Chester.
[3] John Arundel; the bishops of Coventry and Lichfield were occasionally called by this title.
[4] On previous disputes about murage see above, p. 447 *et passim*.

there were sent to London for the parte of þe seide Citie to sue for þe seid Cite in & for þe premissez; and they cam to London the Thursday þe ixth day of Nouembre & continied there vnto þe first day of Decembre þen next folowyng; within which tyme, þat is to sey, the Wensday before þe fest of seynt Andrewe, the warde was made & gyffen vp be þe lordes betwixt þe priour & þe Cite in writyng accordyng as hereafter sueth the transcript þerof; which awarde is vnder þe seals of the seid Bisshops & the couent seall set to þat parte þat the town hath, & to þe oþer parte remaynyng with þe seid priour þe comien seal of þe Towne.

Nov. 9 (really 8) and stay until Dec. 1.

On Nov. 28 the award is made.

DISPUTE WITH] BRISTOL.

Bills concerning the tolls with Bristol, Gloucester and Worcester.

And as-for þe matier touchyng þe liberteez etc. ayenst Bristoll, Gloucestre & Worcestre þe seid Ric. Braytoft, Ric. Coke & Joh. Boteler, presented vnto þe lordes of þe princes Counceill iij seuerall billes, the tenures wherof hereafter suen :—

To þe Prynce.

In þe most humble wyse compleynyng shewen vnto your grace Tho. Bande, Maire of þe Cite of Couentre, Rog. Wode, Will. Barbour, shirrifs & Baillyfs of þe seid Cite, and the comiens of the same, that where they & all theire predecessours, fro þe tyme that no mannes mynde is, haue vsed to be fre, quyte & discharged be all the roialm of Ingland, as-well be lande as be water, within Citez, Boroughes, Townes and withoute, of all maner Toll, pontage, pykage, passage, pavage, stallage, murage, kayage and all oþer Imposicions, charges & seruitudes, whech liberteez, priuileges & ffraunchisez the seid Maire, shirrifs, ballifs, and Cominalte, and all theire predecessours, and all Inhabitauntes in Couentre aforeseid, haue peasibly be all the seid tyme vsed and enioyed vnto þe tyme that the vj day of Aprill the xiijth 3ere of þe reign of oure souerain lorde, kyng Henre þe vijth, and dyuers tymes afore Ric. Jakson and Ric. Pova of Couentre aforeseid, Merchauntes, and many oþer of the seid Cite of Couentre resortyng to þe Towne & havon of Bristoll for wyn, wax & Iron and other Merchaundisez

Coventry anciently toll-free,

to be had and bought there were be[1] late Baillif of the seid Towne at Bristoll aforeseid at a place there called the key wrongfully distreyned be their seid Merchaundisez and compelled to paye for euery Ton tyght[2] iiij d., ayenst all right and contrarie to their liberteez & fraunchisez aforeseid; whech in tymes past alwayes have ben allowed them in the seid Towne of Bristoll: whereof þe seid Maire, shirrifs, Baillifs & Comiens of þe Cite of Couentre praye reformacion & remedy in þat partie. And they woll euer pray to God for your grace.

but now goods of merchants are distrained upon at "Bristolle" quay for toll.

And like billes, mutatis mutandis, were put In ayenst Gloucestre & Worcestre. Howe-be-it in Gloucestre they challenged there toll for passyng the streame etc.[3] Vppon which billes was this ordre taken be þe lordes & assent of þe parties that ij of þe merchauntes of Couentre with a lerned man shuld resorte to Bristoll, Gloucestre & Worcestre there to haue louyng communicacion betwixt them, & þeruppon to take yend in þat partie yf they so coude, & yf not then they to shew theire myndes to þe Recordours of þe seid places, they to take yend yf they Coude, & yf no then they to resorte vnto þe Counceill eft-sones etc.

Toll at "Gloucester, Worcester."

Two Coventry merchants and a learned man try to have loving communication with the towns in question.

THE PRIOR'S MURAGE.

[4]To all *Christien* pepull to whome this present writyng shall come, here or see, William by the grace of God Bysshop of Lincolne, John by the same grace Bisshop of Coventre and Lichefeld and other of[5] the Counsell lerned of Arthur first begoton sonne of kyng Henre the vij, Prince of Wales (etc.), arbitrours indifferently chosen & named bitwen Richard,[6] Prior of the monastery of seynt Marye in the Cite of Coventre & the Couent of the same on the one partie and Thomas Bonde, Maire, & the Cominalte of the same Citie on the other partie, witnessith that where-as diuerse discordes and wariaunces were late moved & had bitwen the seid parties of & vppon x li. of a yerely somme which the seid Maire & Cominalte claymed of the seid

"Couentre." "Murage paid by the priors land." The Bishops of Lincoln and of Coventry

[1] Blank. [2] = weight, v. *E. D. D.*
[3] On the carriage of goods down the Severn v. *Rot. Parl.*, v. 569.
[4] leaf 282, back. Another scribe, F.
[5] "of" repeated. [6] Ric. Shaw.

priour & Couent for the Murage of the seid Citie; for the peasing therof the seid parties haue compromytted theym to abyde thawarde, ordinaunce & iugement of vs the said Bisshopes & Counsail lerned of the seid high & myghty Prince to awarde, ordeigne & deme of & vppon the ryght title & possession of the seid annuell somme of x li. and the arrerages of[1] the same, as by their seuerall obligacions theruppon made more pleynly appereth. And we the seid arbitrours takyng on vs the labour & payne to awarde, ordeigne & deme of & vppon the premissez, calling afore vs the said parties, hering & seing all their titles, answers & other their alegiaunces & their Evidences & proves, consernyng the same by good, long & gret deliberacion by thassent & also at the speciall request & desire of both the seid parties awarde, ordeigne & deme of & vppon the premissez in the maner & fourme folowyng:—

acting as arbitrators in the dispute about murage

have decreed that the prior shall pay according to the rate of the other citizens for murage until the walls be made,

That is to sey, furst we awarde, ordeigne & deme that from the daie of the date of this our present awarde forth the seid priour & Couent & their successours shall bere & paye ratabully with the Citesyns of the seid Citie to the forseid murage & making of the seid[1] walles abowte the seid Citie vnto such tyme as the same walles be fully made vp and accomplisshed; that is to sey, yerely x li. at the fest of All Sayntes, when the seid Citesyns & all other having londes & tenementes within the same Cite shall proporcionably be charged after the rate of the quantite of their seid londes & tenementes to the same murage; provided alwey that if any the seid Citisens or other personnes having londes & tenementes within the same be herafter ratid and assessed to a lesse somme of money than they now bee, that than the seid priour, Couent & their successours shal-be in like fourme lesse ratid & abatid of payment of the seid somme of x li., accordyng to the abatment ratabully of the seid Citizens & other personcs for their londes & tenementes within the same Citie.

i. e. £10 a year,

Also we awarde (etc.) that the seid money thus assessed & gadered for the making of the walles of the seid towne shal-be duely applyde to the same vse & entent & to non other charges nor besynesse of the seid Cite; and that

which sum is to be used for murage,

[1] Deletions.

yerely ther shal-be a due accompte therof made afore certayn indifferent auditours, wherunto the seid priour & his Successours shal-be made pryvey, if they so desire.

Also we awarde (etc.) that the seid prior, Conuent, their successours nor their tenauntes shall not herafter be charged for the londes & tenementes of the seid priour & Conuent ouer the seid x li. be yere onles they purches any more londes & tenementes within the walles of the same Citie, and that the seid priour & Couent nor their successours shall not be charged nor chargeable to the payment of the seid x li. noo lenger but vnto such tyme as the seid Murage & walles aboute the seid Citie be accomplisshed & made, except & sauyd that the priour & Couent after the rate of their londes & tenementes their shal-be contributores with the seid Citesyns to[1] reparacion & amendyng of the same walles,[2] as other persones having londes & tenementes within the seid Citie shal-be charged, & that the seid money so assessed & gaderid shal-be duely imploied to the reparacion & amendyng of the same walles of the seid Cite, and auditours therupon to be sett,[3] as it is abouesaid, & þat þe seid priour & his successours be made privey to þe seid assessing & to the accomptes therof to be made, as it is abouesed.

until the work be accomplished, after which time the prior shall only be liable to charges for repairs,

and account thereof shall be rendered.

Also we awarde (etc.) þat þe seid Maire & Cominalte & their successours shall haue & reteigne yerely x li. of such sommes of money on the seid priour, Citezens & other hauyng londes & tenementes within the same Cite from the fest of Saint Michell tharchaungell last passed afore this oure awarde vnto thende of v yeres than next folowyng & noo lenger; which x li. so reteigned shall goo towarde the charge of the Chamberleyns of the seid Cite, which haue laied out in tymes passed more money to the making of the seid walles than they haue received for the same.

£10 to be retained yearly to pay up the chamberlains who have laid out more money than they received.

Also we awarde (etc.) that the seid Maire and Cominalte shall not herafter aske ner haue any arrerages of the seid yerely somme of x li. vnpaied by the seid priour afore the date of this oure awarde but l li., which l li. the priour and Couent shall paie to the seid Maire & Cominaltie to haue their good willes & favours, that is to sey, in the fest of the

The prior to pay £50 of arrears.

[1] MS. te. [2] Deletions. [3] or "seit."

£10 at Candlemas; £10 at Lammas; until it be paid up.

Purificacion of oure Lady next comyng aftur the date of this oure awarde x li., and at the fest of saint Petur called Ad-uincula then next ensuyng other x li., and so x li. yerely at the same festes vnto the seid l li. be fully contented & paied. In witnesse wherof both we the seid Arbitrours and the forseid parties to thies present indentures interchaungeable haue putte their Seales, that is to sey, the seid priour & Conuent the Comen Seale of their said howse, & the seid Maire & Cominaltie the Comen Seal of their seid Citie. Yeven the xxviijth day of Nouembre in the xiiijth yere of the reigne of the seid king.

Nov. 28. 1498.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

"Couentre." Oct. 9. 1498.

[1][V. f. p. held before Tho. Bonde, m., Tho. Grene, Will. Deyster, b., on Tuesday after the octave of Michaelmas, 14 Hen. VII.]

Jury.

Joh. Wygeston, Joh. Gauge, Ric. Braytoft, Joh. Thrumpton, Will. Shore, Ric. Coke, Tho. Baylly, Rob. Colman, Ric. Lee, Will. Rowley, Tho. Chirchman, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Will. ffoorth, Joh. Haddon, Ric. Smyth, Tho. Maydford, Joh. Gryme, Joh. Duddesbury, Galf. Ardern, Tho. Padland, Will. ffletcher, Ed. Hulcote, Will. Taillour.

Sheriffs.

[Rog. Wode, dyer, Will. Barbour, capper.]

WILL. HOPKYNS, MAYOR, 1499.

"Couentre." Jan. 25.

[2][Election of officers.]

Electors.

Tho. Chirchman, Hen. Marler, Ric. Braytoft, Will. Shore, Ric. Coke, Tho. Baylly, Rob. Colman, Ric. Lee, Joh. Wygeston, Will. Rowley, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Will. Taillour, Galf. Ardern, Tho. Maydford, Edw. Hulcote, Edw. Barbour, Will. ffletcher, Ric. Hassale, Tho. Grove, Joh. Throughley, Joh. Syssell, Rog. Mason, Will. Wygeston.

[m. Will. Hopkyns; cor. Rob. Topclyff; steward, Joh. Boteler; ch. Edm. Deyster, Grasear, Will. Birdlyme; w. Nic. Burwey, Joh. Humfrey, dyer; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Joh. Toures.]

[1] leaf 283. [2] leaf 283, back.

ATTORNEY.

[Monday, Aug. 19, 1499, before the mayor and others, Joh. Castell was admitted as attorney for the mayor and bailliffs in the Exchequer, taking the fee and wages due as of old. And he took the oath.]

Mem. quod die Lune xix die Augusti a. r. r. H. vij xiiij^mo^ apud Couentr*iam* Coram *pre*fato M*aiore*[1] ac Tho. Chirchman, Ric. Braytoft, Will. Roweley, Rob. Grene, Joh*anne*s Castell admissus fuit attorn*atus* pro M*aiore* & Ball*iu*is ville de Couentr*ia* in Cur*ia* dom*in*i R*egis* de Scakkario capi*en*do feod*um* & vad*ium* ex antiq*uo* debit*um*. Et jurat*us* est.

JOH. HADDON, MAYOR, 1500.

[2][Election of officers.] "Couentre." Jan. 25. Electors.

Rob. Grene, Hen. Marler, Ric. Braytoft, Joh. Thrumpton, Will. Shore, Ric. Coke, Tho. Bailly, Rob. Colman, Ric. Lee, Joh. Wygston, Will. Roweley, Tho. Chircheman, Joh. Padland, Tho. Bonde, Joh. Dwale, Will. Taillour, Tho. Maideford, Ric. Jakson, Ed. Barbour, Tho. Grene, Ric. Nores, Joh. Strong, Ric. Lansdale, Ric. Hassale.

[m. Joh. Hadon; cor. Rob. Topclyff; ch. Tho. Kervyn, Dauid Blakwall; w. Ric. Marler, Joh. Hardwen; mace, Hen. Peyntour; crier, Joh. Toures.] Officers.

THE COUNCIL.

Hit is ordeyned at þis elecc*i*on that the Maire kepe Counceill wokely ones in þe woke specially on þe Wensday, and that þe Maires s*er*iant warne the Mares Brethern eu*er*y Tewesday to be at seynt Mari-hall at þe Counceill vppon þe Wensday without þe Maire co*m*maunde þe contrarie, vppon peyn of þe seid s*er*iant to lese at eu*er*y tyme he doth þe Contrarie iiij d. "A Councelll to be held weekly on Wensday."

THE BRISTOL AFFAIR.

Mem. that þis in Estur t*er*me was þe matier in variaunce betwixt þis Cite & Bristoll[3] as-touchyng kayage claymed "Variaunce between Bristoll &

[1] "This mayor strove greatly against this town (*sic*) of our Lady." Annals quoted in Fretton, *Whitefriars* (*Proc. B'ham and Midl. Institute*), 10. There was an image of the Virgin kept in the Lady Tower by Whitefriars on the London Road.

[2] leaf 285. Scribe B. John Whitehed, Joh. Raynold bailiffs.

[3] See above, pp. 592 *sqq.*

Couentry setled by indenture."

be þe Baillifs of Bristoll, determyned be þe Recordours of both places, as appereth be writyng indented vnder the comien seals of both Townes; wherof þe on partie sealed with þe comien seall of Bristoll remayneth in þe Tresorye in seynt Marie hall, & the copie þerof is regestred in the boke where þe Copie of þe Chartirs be registred, remaynyng with þe Styward etc.

WILL. PISFORD, MAYOR, 1501.

[1] Ihs.

"Civitas Couentre." Jan. 25. Electors.

¶ [Election of officers.]

Joh. Padland, Hen. Marler, Ric. Braytoft, Joh. Thrumpton, Will. Shore, Ric. Coke, Tho. Bailly, Ric. Lee, Joh. Wygston, Will. Roweley, Tho. Chircheman, Rob. Grene, Will. fforth, Tho. Bonde, Will. Hopkyns, Geff. Ardern, Edw. Hulcote, Edw. Barbur, Will. Barbour, Ric. Nores, Joh. Sissell, Tho. Grove, Ric. Lansdale, Will. Burglen.

Officers.

[m. Will. Pisford;[2] cor. Rob. Topcliff; ch. Ric. Burwey, Tho. Turnour, Jun.; w. Tho. fforth, Nic. Heynes; mace, Hen. Peyntour "super suam bonam gesturam;" crier, Joh. Toures.]

"A common box."

Whech Will. Pisford in hys tyme be þe advyce of þe Counceill ordred a Comien box to be had in þis Cite, which he ordeyned of his cost, & let set hit in þe Counceill house in seynt Mary hall; in-to which boxe for a goode begynnyng Ric. Coke & Joh. Boteler, executors of þe testament of Sir Joh. Gilbert, late viker of both parish Churches in Couentre gaffe xl s; and ouer þat þe seid Joh. Boteler of such money as he had resceyued of printices .[3] To which box is made v keyes, the Maire for the tyme beyng to haue on of þeym, & þe iiij other to be in kepyng of iiij Comieners that haue not be in offices of wardeyn & chamberleyn, & they iiij to be Chosen be x comieners, they x to be Chosen be þe Meire &

The executors of the will of the "on Vicker of both parishes" give 40*s*.

Boteler more.

"5 keies" are made; to be in the keeping of 4 commons chosen by 10 others,

[1] leaf 286, back. The first time these symbolic letters appear here. Baillifs, Joh. Stronge, Ric. Hassale. Coventry is here described as "ciuitas siue villa."

[2] Part founder with Ford of the Grey Friars' hospital, which is still in existence. For Pisford's will, see Dugdale (1730), 184–5.

[3] Blank. Boteler as steward kept the book wherein the names of apprentices were entered. See above, p. 560.

his Counceill for the tyme beyng, þat is to sey in euery of þe x wardes in Couentre j to be named. And these ordrer (*sic*) to be kept frohensfurth for euer as often as eny of þe seid Comieners be called into office or happe to decesse or oþerwyse be remoued. And for þe begynnyng of þis ordre the seid Maire let Chose be þe advice of his Counceill þe x persones of þe x wardes in Couentre, that is to sey, Tho. Mosell, draper, Ric. Semyng, draper, Will. Wycam, draper, Hen. Grey, draper, Will. Banwell, Merser, Joh. Plesantyn, mercer, Tho. ffarman, smyth, Will. Briggys, Capper, Will. Huet, Baker, & Ric. Pova,[1] Mercer. Whech x let chose & name þes iiij persones folowyng to haue þe kepyng of þe keyes; to whech iiij persones þe seid Maire delyuered to euerych of theym a key, þat is to sey, Joh. Wodnet, dyer, Will. Carter, taillour, Will. Briggez, Capper, & Ric. Pova.

one from each of the respective wards.

RIC. JAKSON, MAYOR, 1502.

[2] Ihs.

[Election of officers.] Jan. 25.

Will. fforth, Hen. Marler, Ric. Braytoft, Will. Shore, Ric. Coke, Tho. Baylly, Ric. Lee, Joh. Wygston, Will. Roweley, Tho. Chircheman, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Tho. Bande, Joh. Hadon, Will. Taillour, Gal. Ardern, Edw. Hulcote, Tho. Padland, Tho. Turnour, Rog. Wode, Ric. Nores, Joh. Sissell, Will Hardy, Tho. Grove. Electors.

[m. Ric. Jakson; cor. Rob. Topclyff; ch. Hum. Grene, Alan. Ruyley; w. Hugo Dawes, Ric. Dadynton, draper; mace, Hen. Peynter; crier, Joh. Toures.] Officers.

RIC. COKE, MAYOR, 1503.

[3] Ihs.

¶ [Election of officers.] "Ciuitas Couentre."

Tho. Band, Hen. Marler, Ric. Braytoft, Will. Shore, Tho. Baylly, Will. Roweley, Ric. Lee, Tho. Chircheman, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Will. fforde, Joh. Haddon, Jan. 25. Electors, 25 names.

[1] See above, p. 594.
[2] leaf 288, back. Ric. Lansdale, Joh. Saunders, bailiffs.
[3] leaf 290, back. Bailiffs, Joh. Hardewyn, Joh. Norton

Tho. Padland, Will. Taillour, Rog. Chambre, Tho. Turnour, Will. Barbour, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Strong, Joh. Sissell, Tho. Grove, Will. Hardy, Ric. Nores, Tho. fforde, Nic. Heynes.

Officers.

[m. Ric. Coke; cor. Rob. Topclyff; ch. Ric. Wilson, Will. Perkyns, Baker; [w.] Will. Barnwall, Will. Briggес, Capper; mace, Hen. Walker upon his good conduct; & Hugh Johnson crier, upon the condition that present and future sheriffs shall pay yearly to Joh. Toures, who before this occupied the crier's office, during his life 13s. 4d. at the four terms of the year by equal portions, from the fee of the said Hugh or of any other occupier of the office during the said John's lifetime.]

Pension for the retiring crier taken from the new crier's fee.

THO. PADLAND, MAYOR, 1504.

[1] Ihs.

"Civitas Couentre."

¶ [Election of officers.]

Jan. 25. Electors.

Joh. Hadon, Hen. Marler, Ric. Braytoft, Will. Shore, Tho. Bailly, Will. Roweley, Tho. Chircheman, Rob. Grene, Ric. Lee, Joh. Padlond, Tho. Bande, Will. Pysford, Tho. Turnour, Will. Taillour, Edw. Hulcote, Rog. Chambre, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassale, Joh. Sissell, Ric. ffoxale, Tho. Grove, Will. Hardy, Humf. Grene, Tho. fforde.

Officers.

[m. Tho. Padland; cor. Rob. Topcliff; ch. Tho. May, Grasiour, Tho. Estelen; w. Hen. Rogers, vyntener, Tho. Waren, dyer; mace, Hen. Peynter, crier, Hugh Johnson.]

THE TANNERS.

Nov. 21. "John Botelar, stuard, one of the Company of tanners, discharged of this keping of the Craft, [3] paying a ffine." [3]

[2] Mem. þat [2] In the Counceill holden in Scynt Mary hall þe xxj[ti] day of Nouembre [20 Hen. VII], there beyng present þe seid Maire, Hen. Marler, Ric. Coke, Ric. Braytoft, Will. Shore, Ric. Lee, Tho. Bailly, Tho. Chircheman, Joh. Padland, Tho. Bonde, Joh. Hadon, Ric. Jakson, in þe matier beyng in variance betwix þe ffeliship of þe Tanners & Joh. Boteler, which feliship had chosen þe seid Joh. Boteler for on of þe kepers of their Craft, which to

[1] leaf 292, back. Bailiffs, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Humfrey.
[2–2] Added later in another hand.
[3–3] In the 17th-century hand usual in marginal annotations.

take vppon hym þe seid Joh. Boteler refused,[1] & ther shewed[1] that he was discharged be þe hole Craft at þe tyme he was receyued into theire ffeliship of that charge & all othere charges, whils he liffed, concideryng þe office he had etc.; for which discharge he hath paide ȝerely xl d. & where the oþer of þe company paye but ij s. For which discorde to be appeised hit was ordred be þe seid Counceill at þat tyme that þe seid Joh. Boteler, concideryng þe charge he had dayly with þe officez of stywarship & Town-clerk of þe Cite, that he shuld frohensfurth be discharged of Maistership & keper of þe seid Craft for euer and all oþer charges longyng to þe seid Craft, as offerynges,[2] assembleez & other metynges & charges sauyng only that he shall kepe & obserue all goode & resonable ordinancez made & to be made that shal-by (*sic*) godly & expedient for þe comien wele of þe seid Craft; ffor which discharge þe seid Joh. Boteler shall paye in hand vj s. viij d. & euery ȝere after whils he occupieth þe Craft ij s., & euery vij ȝere herafter whils he liffeth & occupieth þe Craft to pay vj s. viij d. in name of a ffyn for þe discharge aforerehersed etc.

JOH. DUDDESBURY, MAYOR, 1505.

[3] Ihs.

[Election of officers.]

"Civitas Couentrie." Jan. 25. Electors.

Will. Pysford, Hen. Marler, Ric. Coke, Ric. Braytoft, Ric. Lee, Tho. Bailly, Rob. Grene, Tho. Chircheman, Joh. Padland, Will. Shore, Will. ffoorde, Tho. Bonde, Joh. Hadon, Ric. Jakson, Tho. Wardelowe, Joh. Darlyng, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassale, Joh. Hardwyn, Joh. Clerk, Will. Hardy, Ric. Nores, Tho. Groue, Th. ffoorde.

Officers.

[m. Joh. Duddesbury, skynner; cor. Tho. Rastell; ch. Hen. Sampson, dier, Joh. Nix, Grasier; w. Joh. Hoton, mercer, Tho. Smyth, draper; mace, Hen. Peyntour; crier, Hugh Johnson. And the aforeseid Joh. Hoten died

[1] deletions. [2] *i. e.* at mass.

[3] leaf 294. Scribe B. Bailiffs, Ric. Marler, Ric. ffoxale. On the play of St. Crytyan or S. Christian played in the Little Park this year see Sharp, *Mysteries*, 10; Craig, *Two Corpus Christi Plays*, xxi.

within this year, and in his place Joh. Dixon was elected, which Joh. Dixon died also within the said year.[1]]

THO. WARDELOWE, MAYOR, 1506.

"Civitas Couentre." Jan. 25.

[2] ¶ [Election of officers.]

Ric. Jakson, Hen. Marler, Ric. Cooke, Tho. Baylly, Will. Shore, Rob. Colman, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padland, Will. ffoorde, Tho. Bande, Will. Pisford, Joh. Hadon, Joh. Strong, Joh. Darlyng, Reg. Chambre, Ric. Hassale, Joh. Hardwyn, Joh. Clerk, Ric. ffoxale, Ed. Hulcote, Ric. Nores, Tho. Warde, Rob. Dadyngton, Will. Banwell.

Officers.

[m. Tho. Wardelowe, Grasiour; cor. Tho. Rastell; ch. Joh. Payn, dier, Joh. Eyburn, Tanner; w. Ed. Hadley, Will. Wykam. And as to the election of a common sub-bailiff-at-mace & crier the election of them is referred to

Jan. 28.

the mayor and his council to be held on Wednesday next following. On which day the said Joh. Duddesbury, m., and his council, viz. Ric. Jakson, Hen. Marler, Ric. Cooke, Tho. Bailly, Tho. Chircheman, Joh. Padland, Rob. Grene, Will. ffoorde, Will. Pisford and Tho. Bande, elected and named Hen. Peyntour common sub-bailiff on his good behaviour & Ric. ffreyby, crier.]

Hen. Peyntour, mace, Ric. Freyby, crier.

[And further at the same council they made an ordinance because hitherto the mayor for the time being at each court of the lord king held in the said city sat alone without the council of his brethren the aldermen; therefore it was ordained that for the future at each court to be held in the said city there shall sit with the said mayor at least two of his brethren as his councillors and coadjutors and assistants

Et vlterius ad eundem Consilium ordinauerunt pro eo quod Maior pro tempore existens preantea ad quamlibet Curiam domini Regis in dicta Ciuitate tenta[m], sedebat[3] solus sine concilio suorum confratrum 'alderman.' Ideo tunc ordinatum fuit quod decetero in futuro ad quamlibet Curiam tenendam in dicta Ciuitate sedebunt cum dicto Maiore duo ad minus de suis confratribus tanquam suis conciliariis & co-adiutaribus (*sic*) & sibi assistentibus vsque ad finem Curie predicte. Et adtunc & ibidem

[1] 1504 was a year of plague in London. The deaths of wardens within the year suggests an epidemic in Coventry.

[2] leaf 296. Bailiffs, not elsewhere named, Nic. Burwey, Joh. Smyth. Scribe B.

[3] "valde" deleted.

until the close of the said court. And then and there they appointed which of them shall begin and how they shall keep their turn for the future, that is to say on Tuesday next after Candlemas (Feb. 3) J. Duddesbury and R. Jakson, M.G.S.T., are assigned for that court; and for the next following R. Marler, R. Cooke. And for the third T. Bailly and R. Colman; and the fourth R. Lee and T. Churchman; and the fifth R. Green and J. Padland; and the sixth Will. Ford and T. Bonde; and the seventh J. Hadon and Will. Pisford. And thus to keep their turn for ever.]

limitauerunt qui eorum incipient & quomodo suum cursum imposterum[1] tenerent, videlicet ad proximam Curiam tenendam, videlicet die martis proximo post festum Purificacionis B. Marie proximo futurum, Joh. Duddesbury nunc Maior & Ric. Jakson, M.G.S.T., assignati sunt pro Curia illa: Et ad Curiam tunc proximo sequentem, Ric. Marler & Ric. Cooke; Et ad terciam Curiam, Tho. Bailly & Rob. Colman; Et ad iiij^tam Curiam Ric. Lee & Tho. Chirchman: Et ad quintam Rob. Grene & Joh. Padland: Et ad sextam Will. ffoorde & Tho. Bonde: Et ad septimam Joh. Hadon & Will. Pisford. Et sic custodiendo cursum eorum vsque in sempiternum.

ROB. GRENE, MAYOR, 1507.

[2] ¶ [Election of officers.] "Couentre." Jan. 25. Jury.

Ric. Jakson, Hen. Marler, Ric. Cooke, Will. Shore, Tho. Baylly, Rob. Colman, Joh. Padland, Tho. Bonde, Joh. Haddon, Joh. Duddesbury, Edw. Hulcot, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Whithed, Joh. Darlyng, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwyn, Joh. Humfrey, Ric. ffoxall, Ric. Nores, Joh. Syssell, Tho. Grove, Tho. Warde, Will. Hardy, Tho. fforth.

[m. Rob. Grene; cor, Joh. Rastell; ch. Tho. Kelyngworth, Will. Dawson; w. Will. Wykam, Joh. Morse; mace, Hen. Peynter.] Officers.

[3] [And as to the steward they wish to consider until Candlemas; at which day by the advice of the new mayor they elected J. Porter steward. And he took the oath.]

Et quoad senescallum volunt se aduisare vsque festum Purificacionis B. Marie etc.; ad quem diem eligerunt (*sic*) per consilium noui Maioris Joh. Porter[4] esse[4] senescallum; & juratus est etc.

[1] One stroke of "m" missing. [2] leaf 297.
[3] Margin has "Joh. Porter chose steward." [4] In a later hand.

ORDERS OF COUNCIL.

"For election of the wardens."

Memorand*um* that it is agreed at this Elecc*i*on for-asmoch as heretofore they haue vsed yerely to chose newe wardens so that the repa*ra*cions of the Townesland was not repared for cause they were dysmyssed eue*ry* yere, so that the newe wardeyns were eue*r* to seke and eue*ry* man wold repare[1] at his pleasur: And therfor hit is ordened þa*t* from hensforth for eue*r* þa*t* oon of the old wardeyns shall continue another yere, and a newe to be chosen to hym, so þa*t* eue*r* oon of them shall conti*n*ue ij yere*s*.

"Mr. Lee xl li. Mr. Churchman free from all offices."

Also for-asmoch as M*aister* Lee & M*aister* Churcheman han graunted to the vse of the Condit of this Citie to be apploid, the seid Lee xl li. and the seid M*aister* Churchman vj fowder[2] lede for þa*t* cause, þa*t* fro-hensfurth for eue*r* they shuld be discharged to be called or elect to eny office of Charge wi*th*in this Cite, which grauntes the have bounde them to pe*r*forme & pay; therfor at this elecc*i*on they haue discharged them and for the more suerty they haue graunted to them þa*t* at the next lete hit shal-be confermed be auctorite of lete. And also M*aister* fforth by M*aister* Cooke in lyke wyse at that tyme graunted to the same vse xl li. to be pa*r*doned of the seid office vnto the next tyme þa*t* his turne aftur his aunciente[3] shall come to hym etc.

Mr. Forth also excused office.

LEET.

"Couentre." Apr. 20.

[4] ¶ [V. f. p. held before Rob. Grene, m., Nic. Heynes, Will. Wigston, b., on Tuesday before S. George's day, 22 Hen. VII.]

Jury of 31.

Ric. Jakson, Hen. Ma*r*ler, Ric. Cooke, Will. Shore, Tho. Baylly, Rob. Colman, Tho. Churcheman, Joh. Padland, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Tho. Wardlowe, Tho. Turno*ur*, Joh. Darlyng, Edw. Hulcot, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Whithed, Joh. Saunders, Joh. Har-

[1] MS. repe*r*are.
[2] fother = a load; a definite weight of lead: now usually 19½ cwt.
[3] MS. aunnciente. Evidently seniority played a great part in putting men in honourable places.
[4] leaf 297, back.

wyn, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Humfrey, Ric. ffoxall, Joh. Smyth, Ric. Nores, Tho. Grove, Will. Dawson, Humf. Grene, Ric. Wylson, Hugo Dawes, Ed. Hadley, Tho. fforth.

"Bakers to Contribute 13*s.* 4*d.* yearly to the smiths pageant."

Mem. [ordained] that the Craft & ffeliship of Bakers shal-be contributories & Charged from hensforth *with* the Craft & feliship of Smythes and to pay yerely to them toward theyre pagent at Corpus *Christi* tyde xiij s. iiij d. and so to contynewe from hensforth yerely etc.

"Conduit."

[Ordained] for a *Com*ien wele of this Citie that eu*er*y alderman of this Citie take *with* hym vj of the most discrete p*er*sons & of the most honest *with*in their warde to serch and loke what eu*er*y man will gyffe towarde the makyng of the Condyte, and all such sum*m*ys as shal-be graunted to *cer*tyfe *Maister* Maire & his brethern at a *cer*ten day.

"Pavements to be Amended by occupyers off Houses."

["Ordened"] that the Maist*er* of the Trinite yelde well & sufficiently make the broken payment*es* of the Trinite Gylde grounde of this halfe the feist of Seint Michell tharchaungell next comyn at the Gylde*s* Cost. And yf it be not made be that day to make hit at his owen Cost immediatly [or 6s. 8d. at every default] and the *Maister* of Corp*or*is *Christi* Gylde and the wardeyns[1] in lyke wyse. Also all other men that they make ther pavement*es* by the same day [or 6s. 8d. at every default.]

"Repair the wall."

[Ordained and agreed] that *Maister* Maire with iiij or vj of his brethern twyse a yere goo a-bowte the towne wall and se what fawt*es* be ther and se them mendyd by his discrec*ci*on etc.

R. Nores discharged from serving on juries.

[Ordained] that Ric. Nores, cardmaker, shall not from hensforth be sworn apon eny Jure or inpanelid of eny enquest, but to be therof vtt*er*ly discharged for his gret age & ffebulnesse from hensfforth for eu*er* etc.

"Tanners pageant."

[Ordained] that the ffelisship of Coruesers shal-be contributory & chargeable *with* the Craft of Tanners yerly from hensforth and to pay xiij s. iiij d. And to begyn theyre payment of the hole at Corpus *Christi* tyde next comyng, and so forth yerly at eu*er*y Corpus *Christi* tyde to pay xiij s. iiij d. etc.

[1] Interesting presentment of city officials. Cf. pp. 293–6.

"Bochers & whittawers to Repaire A pageant."

[Ordained and agreed] that from-hens-furth the felishipp & Crafte of Bochers shal-be yerly contributorye to the felyship of whittawers toward there pagent at Corpus *Christi* tyde xvj s. viij d. and so to contin*ue* yerly forth lyke as they dydde afore etc.

SOLDIERS.

June 8, 1507. "20 souldiers Retained ffor the King's seruis by Indenture."

[1] This indenture made the viij day of June in the xxij^{ti} yere of the reigne of *our* soue*r*aigne lord kyng Henry the vijth betwen Rob. Grene, Maire (etc.) on the oon p*ar*te & Joh. Richardson, weue*r*, Joh. Bradshawe, taillo*ur*, Will. Harre, plume*r*, Tho. Yate, taillo*ur*, Rauffe Tomson, carpente*r*, Miles Ale, tanne*r*, Raufe Swetnam, carpente*r*, Joh. Braynsford, carpente*r*, Rauffe Craddock, taillo*ur*, Rob. Barton, Carver, Geo. Skelton, sherman, Rob. Hamond, coruise*r*, Hen. Snodon, sherman, Tho. Gyttyns, glover, Tho. Braynsford, sherman, Hugh ffelse, tanne*r*, Wal. West, cappe*r*, Will. Stevynson, weue*r*, Joh. Tylston, cappe*r*, and Jas. Badeley, coruise*r*, sowdeers, appoyntid to do the kinge*s* grace se*r*uice of warre, of the other p*ar*tye, Witnesseth that the seid sowdeyers above-namyd han p*ro*mysed & g*r*auntid & by these p*r*esente*s* p*ro*misen & graunten to the seid Maire that they and eue*r*y of them shal-be at all-tymes redy & in a redynesse a-pon a dayes warnyng to doo the kinge*s* grace, *our* soue*r*aigne lord, se*r*uice of warre at his g*r*aces wage*s* as well w*ith*in this his noble realme as elswhere, when-sume-eue*r* and as often as the case shall require, horsed & harnysed at the coste*s* & charge*s* of the seid Citie of Couentre. All which Coue-naunte*s* well & truely to be pe*r*formed & kept of the p*ar*te of the above-namyd sowdeers, the seid sowdyers bynde them, and eue*r*y of them by these p*r*esente*s*. And oue*r* that vppon payn of imp*r*isonment there to remayne at the kynge*s* pleasu*r*. In witnesse wherof to the oon p*ar*te of this Indenture with the seid Maire remanyng the above-namyd sowdyers there sealls haue sette. At Couentre the day & yere above-seid.

[1] leaf 298. Scribe of C. type.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

[1][V. f. p. held on Tuesday after S. Dionisius' day, 23 Hen. VII.] Oct. 12, 1507.

Ric. Jakson, Hen. Marler, Ric. Cooke, Ric. Lee, Tho. Churcheman, Joh. Padland, Will. fforth, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Tho. Wardlowe, Ric. Hassall, Tho. Turnour, Joh. Strong, Ric. Smyth, Edw. Hulcote, Joh. Darlyng, Joh. Saunders, Rog. Chambur, Ric. ffoxall, Joh. Whithed. Jury of 21.

[Tho. Grove, Hen. Rogers.] Sheriffs.

Mem. that Joh. Bonde hath brought in at this day xx s. which his fader gaffe therto accordyng to the wyll of his seid ffader.[2] Joh. Bond's father's will.

[3]Also it is ordeyned at this lete that on Joh. a Woode, mercer, let on-couere the Redde diche, which renneth throwgh his gardeyn to the grete noyaunce of his neighpours[4] . . . by-twene this and Cristenmas next comyng, apon the peyn to forfeyte xl s., the on half to the Chamberleyns of the Citee ant[5] the other half to the comen boxe etc. "Clensing Red ditch."

[Ordained] that the Chamburleyns and Wardeyns of this Citee fromhensforth tweyes a yere, that is to seye at euery lete, bryng in a byll of all such ffawtes and noysoonces as be withyn there office, apon the payne of fforfetur of euery of them xx s., which shal-be receyvid of them apon their accompt, the on half to the Shirrefs, the other half to the comen boxe etc. The chamberlains and wardens to bring in a bill of faults and nuisances.

THE PRINCESS'S MARRIAGE.

[6]A Copie of the obligacion wheryn the Citee of Couentre with other diuerse Citees stondith bounde for the mariage of my lady Marie to the duke of Burgoyne.[7]

[1] leaf 298, back. [2] The founder of Bablake Hospital.
[3] Scribe G.
[4] Evidently an omission; supply "he must cover it again," or words to that effect. [5] = and.
[6] leaf 301, back. This treaty was signed at Calais Dec. 21, 1507. Heavy penalties being attached to the breach of the engagement, the leading nobles and towns of England and Flanders were securities for the forfeitable sum.
[7] Mary (1496–1533) was betrothed to Charles, grandson of Maximilian, afterwards Charles V. The marriage never took place, the princess marrying (1) Louis XII, (2) Brandon, Duke of Suffolk.

[To all and sundry to whose knowledge the present letters shall come, We, the Earls of Arundel, Oxford, Northumberland, Surrey, Shrewsbury, Essex, Derby, Lords Herbert, Dacre, Berners, Mountjoy Darcy, Conyers, and Stafford, and also constables and communities of the cities, forts and towns of London, York, Coventry, Norwich, Exeter, Chester, Worcester, Bristol (etc.) [send] greeting.

[Whereas there is contained amongst other things in a certain treaty of the date Dec. 21, 1507, between the most illustrious, excellent and potent prince, our most dread lord Henry, by the grace of God King of England and France and lord of Ireland, on the one side, and the most sacred prince, Maximilian, by the favour of the divine mercy then King of the Romans but now elected as the ever august Emperor of the Romans, as well King of the Romans as

Vniuersis et singulis ad quorum noticias (*sic*) presentes litere peruenirent, Nos, Tho. Comes Arundellie,[1] Joh Comes Oxonie,[2] Hen. Comes Northumbrie,[3] Tho. Comes Surrey,[4] Geo Comes Salopie,[5] Hen. Comes Essexie, Tho. Comes Derbeie,[7] Carolus Somerset, dominus Harbart, Tho. ffyneux dominus Dacre,[8] Joh. Boucher, dominus Berneys,[9] Will. Blount, dominus Mountgoy,[10] Tho. Dercy, dominus Darcy, Will. Conyers, dominus Conyers, [11]et dominus Hen. Stafford, nec non Maiores, aldermannes, vicecomites, balliui, Constabularii et Communitates Ciuitatum, opidorum (*sic*) et villarum Londonie, Eboraci, Couentrie, Norwiche, Exonie, Chestre, Wigornie, Bristollie, Southampton, Boston, Hull and Newcastell, salutem.

Cum in quodam tractatu de data vicesimi primi diei Mensis Decembris A.D. Millesimo quingentesimo septimo inter Illustrissimum, excellentissimum et potentissimum principem, dominum nostrum metuendissimum Henricum D. G. Anglie & ffrancie Regem & dominum Hibernie ex vna parte, et sacratissimum principem Maximilianum, diuina fauente clemensia tunc Romanorum Regem nunc vero electum in Romanorum Imperatorem semper augustum etc, tam ut Regem Romanorum quam ut auum paternum et legittimum tutorem

[1] Tho. Fitz Alan. [2] Joh. de Vere. [3] Hen. Algernon Percy.
[4] Tho. Howard. [5] Geo. Talbot. [6] Hen. Bourchier. [7] Tho. Stanley.
[8] Fienes. [9] Bourchier, Lord Berners. [10] Mountjoy. [11] blank.

the paternal grandfather and lawful guardian, governour and administrator of the goods and person of the most illustrious and serene Charles, Prince, by the same grace, of Spain, both Sicilies and Jerusalem, and the same prince by the authority and express consent of the same King of the Romans as grandfather (etc.) aforesaid, Archdukes of Austria, Dukes of Burgundy, Brabant, etc. Counts of Hapsburg, Flanders, Artois, Lords of Slavonia, Mechlen, etc. and the most serene and far-famed Lady, Margaret[1] of Austria and Burgundy, dowager Duchess of Savoy, the most dear aunt of the Prince of Spain, on the other side, by their ambassadors therupon fully authorized, constituted and deputed, in order to have, contract and solemnize the marriage, with God's will, arranged, agreed on and concluded, between the aforesaid illustrious Prince of Spain and the most serene and famous lady, Lady Mary, most beloved daughter of our most dread lord, the said King of England etc. and by the said King of England, Emperor, Prince of Spain, and lady duchess by their distinct and separate letters patents, sealed

gubernatorem et administratorem corporis et bonorum Illustrissimi ac serenissimi principis Caroli, eadem

gratia Hispanie, vtriusque Cicilie & Jerusalem, et eundem principem Hispanie, auctoritatem (*sic*) tamen et expresso consensu eiusdem Regis Romanorum, ut aui ac Tutoris, gubernatoris ac administratoris predicti, archiduces Austrie, duces Burgundie, Brabancie etc., Comites Hapsburgensis, fflandrie, Arthesie etc. dominos Sclauonie, Mechlenne, etc., ac serenissimam et preclarissimam dominam

Margaretam Austrie & Burgundie, viduam ducissam Sabaudir (*sic*), prefati principis Hispanie amitam carissimam, partibus (*sic*) ex altera, per oratores suos hinc inde sufficientes autorisatos, constitutos et deputatos pro matrimonio inter prefatum Illustrissimum principem Hispanie et serenissimam ac prec[l]arissimam dominam dominam Mariam, dicti Regis Anglie etc, domini nostri metuendissimi filiam carissimam, Deo dante, habendo, contrahendo & solemnisando nuper conuento, concordato & concluso Et per

dictos Anglie Regem et Imperatorem ac principem Hispanie et dominam ducissam per suas distinctas & separatas literas patentes magnis sigillis suis sigillatas et manibus suis subscriptas, confirmatas, ratificatas et approbatas, inter cetera contineatur

[1] Daughter of Maximilian and regent of the Netherlands. A marriage arranged between Henry VII and this princess was never accomplished.

with their great seals, subscribed with their own hands, confirmed, ratified, and approved, is contained that within 40 days from the time when the Prince of Spain shall have completed the fourteenth year of his age the aforenamed prince and the Lady Mary shall by word of mouth actually and in fact contract marriage, and duly celebrate the same in the place, manner and form specified in the said treaty;

[And that our most dread lord, the King of England aforesaid, shall take steps effectually that not only we, the above-named earls, barons and lords, by our valid and effectual letters patent, sealed with the seals of our arms, and subscribed with our hands, shall bind ourselves, our heirs and successors, and all and singular our goods, moveable and immovable, whether they be found by land or sea, but also that we the aforesaid mayors, aldermen, sheriffs, constables, and communities of cities and towns, both in our corporate capacity and as private persons, present and future, with provision that the corporate obligation shall not decrease the personal obligation, nor the contrary, by our authentic, valid and

quod *prenominati princeps* Hispan*ie* et *domina* Maria infra quadraginta dies *proximo* et Inmediate sequen*tes* postq*uam* dictus *princeps* Hispan*ie* quartum decimum etat*is* sue annum *perimpleuerit*, Matrimonium *per uerba* inde *presenti* realit*er* et cum effect*u* contraherent[1] et Idem matrimonium in fac[i]e eccle*sie* debite solempnizarent locis, *termin*is, modisq*ue* et formis in d*icto* tractatu specificat*is*;

Quodq*ue* metuendissimus d*omin*us *noster* Rex Anglie *predictus* curaret et realit*er* et cum effect*u* faceret quod non solum nos supran*omin*ati Comites, barones, et *domini per literas nostras* patentes validas et efficaces, sigillis armor*um* nostror*um* sigillat*as* et manibus n*ostris* subscriptas, obligerem*us* nos, her*edes* et successores n*ostros* ac om*nia* & sing*ula* bona n*ostra* mobilia et Immobilia *presentia* ac futura vbicunq*ue* *per terram* vel *per* mare fuerint repe*rta*, verum*eciam* q*uod* nos *predicti* Maiores, aldermani, vice*comites*, ball*iui*, constabularii ac *Communitates* Ciuitatum, opidor*um* et villar*um* predictar*um*, tanq*uam* corpo*ra* et collegia ac eciam tanq*uam* p*ar*ticulares p*er*sone que nunc sunt et p*ro* tempo*re* erunt, Ita q*uod* obligacio corporis seu collegii non deroget obligac*ioni* p*ar*ticulari, nec econtra, *per literas nostras* patentes & auctenticas, validas et efficaces, sigil-

[1] deletions.

effectual letters, sealed with our common seals, shall bind ourselves, our heirs and successors, and all our cities and towns and all and singular citizens and townsfolk for the time being, and our communities of the same, and all and every our goods, movable and immovable wherever they may be found, to the King of the Romans, now (etc.) and to the Prince of Spain, their heirs and successors, under the penalty of 50,000 golden crowns (over and above the sum of 250,000 in which the abovesaid our most dread lord, King of England, and the most illustrious and serene Prince Henry (etc.) son and heir of the same King of England, shall bind and oblige themselves to the aforesaid emperor as grandfather (etc.) and to the Prince of Spain, in the name of a penalty by virtue of the said treaty), that the said marriage between the aforenamed Prince of Spain and Lady Mary, when they shall have reached a marriageable age, shall be accomplished in the place (etc.) specified more fully in the said treaty;

[And that if it shall happen through the Lady Mary, or her parents, or any of them, or any one else, or by any occurrence, except it be on the Prince of

lis nostris *Communibus* sigillat*as* obligarem*us* nos, heredes et successores nost*ros*, ac omnes Ciuitates, villas et opida nost*ra*, omnesq*ue* et singulos Ciues et opidanos p*ro* tempore existen*tes* ac *Communitates* nost*ras* eorum*que*, et nost*ra* omnia et singula bona, mobilia et Immobilia p*resentia* et futur*a* vbicunq*ue* fuer*int* reper*ta*, p*refato* tunc Regi Romanor*um*, nunc v*ero* elect*o* Romanor*um* Imper*atori* et p*rincipi* Hispan*ie*, heredib*us* et successorib*us* suis, sub pena quinquaginta Millium coronar*um* auri (p*reter* et ultr*a* summam ducentar*um* et quinquaginta Millium coronar*um* auri qua p*refatus* metuendissim*us* dom*inus* noster Rex Anglie ac Illustrissim*us* et serenissim*us* p*rinceps* Henricus, p*rinceps* Wallie, dux Cornubie et Comes Cestrie etc. filius et heres eiusdem Regis Anglie, p*refato* Imper*atori* ut auo et Tutori p*redicto* et p*rincipi* Hispan*ie* antedict*o* nomine pene v*ir*tute p*redicti* t*ractatus* sese obligarent et astringerent) quod d*ictum* Mat*r*imoniu*m* inter p*renominatos* p*rincipem* Hispan*ie* et dom*in*am Mariam cum ad maturam et legitimam nubendi etatem p*er*uener*int* locis, t*er*minis, modisq*ue* et formis in d*icto* t*ractatu* plenius specificat*is* debite p*er*ficient*ur* (*sic*) et cum effectu;

Quodq*ue* si forte[1] p*er* p*refatam* dom*in*am Mariam, vel parentes suos vel eor*um* aliquem aut alium quemcunq*ue*, aut p*er* quemcunq*ue* modum vel euentum p*reterquam* p*er* p*refatum*

[1] Supply "steterit"; see below, p. 616.

Spain's part, or through his death or the death of either of the contracting parties (which God forfend) that the said marriage by word of mouth within forty days (etc.) shall not be contracted in the manner (etc.) and solemnised according to the rites of the Church, then and in that case we, the earls (etc.) aforesaid, our heirs and successors, shall be bound to pay to the aforesaid King of the Romans, and to the Prince of Spain, their heirs or successors, without delay or excuse the said sum of 50,000 gold crowns, and every part of it, as a penalty for the same breach of contract;

[And that it shall be lawful for the same king (etc.) and the Prince of Spain, their heirs (etc.) to levy and distrain upon, seize, possess and keep all and singular our goods movable and immovable of the said earls (etc.) mayors (etc.) our heirs (etc.) wheresoever by land or sea they may be found without challenge or resistance whatsoever:

[We, therefore, the earls

principem Hispanie, aut eius mortem, vel per mortem alterius contrahencium (quod Deus auertat)[1] quominus dictum matrimonium per uerba de presenti infra quadraginta dies post complimentum[2] quartumdecimum etatis eiusdem principis annum proximo et inmediate sequentes contrahatur modis, terminis, locis, ac formis in supradicto tractatu specificatis [et] in facie ecclesie solempnisetur, tunc & in eo casu nos Comites, barones, et domini, maiores, aldermanni, vicecomites, balliui, constabularii et Communitates predicti, nostrive heredes et successores, dictam summam quinquaginta Millium coronarum auri et quamlibet eius partem in penam eiusmodi repudiacionis dicto tunc Romanorum Regi, nunc vero electo Romanorum Imperatori, et principi heredibusve aut successoribus suis sine dilacione aut excusacione quacunque soluere tenerentur (*sic*);

Quodque eciam lic[er]et prefatis tunc Regi nunc vero (etc.) et principi Hispanie suisve heredibus et successoribus dictam summam quinquaginta millium coronarum auri et quamlibet eius partem de & super omnibus & singulis bonis mobilibus et Immobilibus nostris dictorum Comitum (etc.) Maiorum (etc.) heredumque (etc.) nostrorum vbicunque tam per terram quam per mare fuerint reperta sine contradiccione aut recistencia quacunque libere exigere, leuare, capere, possidere et detinere:

Nos igitur, Comites (etc.) necnon

[1] ? an omission. [2] *sic.* Read "completum," as below, p. 616.

(etc.) mayors (etc.) desiring to obey and please the foresaid our most dread lord not only in the premisses, but also in all other things wherein we can or should, and desiring a prosperous and happy ending for so holy an affair not only for us, but also for the benefit of peace of both sides, and an affair most advantageous for the realms, countries, lordships, and all their subjects and the whole commonwealth of the Christian religion, do bind and oblige, according to the tenor of these presents, as well ourselves, earls (etc.) our heirs (etc.) and all and singular our goods (etc.) and also ourselves, mayors (etc.) as well in our corporate and personal character (so that the obligation of corporate bodies shall not diminish the obligation of individuals, nor the contrary) our heirs (etc.) cities (etc.) our citizens for the time being, all and singular our goods

(etc.) to the aforesaid emperor (etc.) and Prince of Spain, their heirs (etc.) in 50,000 gold crowns in which the King of England (etc.) and the Prince of Wales (etc.) as is aforesaid, shall bind and oblige themselves in order that the said marriage between the aforesaid

Maiores, aldermanni, vicecomites, ballᵢui et Constabularii supradictᵢ, cupientes prefato domino nostro metuendissimo non solum in premissis verumeciam in aliis omnibus quibus possumus, vel debemus, obedire et complacere, Reique tam sancte tam honorifice non nobis solum set et bono pacis vtriusque parcium predictorum ac Regnis, patriis, dominiis & subditis vniuersis ac tocius religionis cristiane reipublice et vtili[ssi]me prosperum et felicem exitum etc., Non mediocriter affectantes et desiderantes, tenore presencium [1] obligamus et astringimus tam nos Comites, Barones (etc.) heredes (etc.) nostros ac omnia & singula bona nostra (etc.), quam eciam nos Maiores (etc.) et Communitates tanquam corpora et collegia et tanquam particulares personas que nunc sunt et pro tempore erunt, Ita quod obligaciones corporum seu collegiorum non derogent obligacionibus particularibus nec e contra, heredes (etc.) nostros, Ciuitates, villas et opida nostra, omnesque et singulos Ciues ac opidanos nostros pro tempore existentes ac omnia & singula bona nostra (etc.) vbicunque fuerint reperta, prefato Imperatori vt auo et Tutori predicto et supranominato principi Hispanie heredibus (etc.) suis in quinquaginta Millibus coronarum auri qua prefatus metuendissimus dominus noster Rex Anglie et prefatus Illustrissimus et serenissimus princeps Wallie, ut predictum est, sese obligarent et

[1] leaf 302.

Prince of Spain and the Lady Mary when they come to a marriageable age shall be duly performed according to the said treaty.

[And if it shall happen through the Lady Mary's doing (etc.) or through any occurrence otherwise than on the Prince of Spain's part or by his death or by the natural death of either of the contracting parties (which God forbid) that this marriage (etc.) may not be celebrated, then and in that case we the aforesaid earls (etc.) mayors (etc.) acknowledge that we will pay or cause to be paid to the aforesaid guardian and Prince of Spain the said sum of 50,000 crowns of gold (etc.), and we promise by these presents to pay or cause it to be paid to the said emperor (etc.) and Prince of Spain or either of them (etc.) as a penalty for the same breach of engagement without any delay or excuse whatever.

[We will also and grant by

astringerent quod dictum matrimonium inter prenominatum principem Hispanie et dominam Mariam cum ad legitimam[1] nubendi etatem peruenerint iuxta formam dicti tractatus debite perficietur.

Et si forte steterit per dictam dominam Mariam vel parentes suos vel eorum aliquem aut quemcunque alium aut per quemcunque modum vel eventum preterquam per prefatum principem Hispanie aut eius partem vel per mortem naturalem alterius contrahencium (quod Deus auertat) quominus dictum matrimonium per uerba de presenti infra quadraginta dies post completum quartumdecimum etatis eiusdem principis annum proximo sequentes modis (etc.) in predicto tractatu specificatis et contentis et in facie ecclesie debite solempnizetur, Tunc et in eo casu nos predicti Comites (etc.), Maiores (etc.) predicti fatemur et recognosimus Tutori predicto et prefato principi Hispanie dictam summam quinquaginta Coronarum auri et quamlibet eius partem, Promittimusque per presentes quod eandem summam quinquaginta Millium Coronarum auri dicto Imperatori ut auo (etc.) predicto et prefato principi Hispanie vel eorum alteri heredibusve (etc.) in penam eiusmodi repudiacionis sine dilacione aut excusacione quacunque soluemus soluive faciemus; Volumusque et per presentes concedimus pro nobis dictis Comitibus (etc.) Maioribus (etc.) heredibus (etc.) quod in

[1] MS. has a stroke too many.

these presents for ourselves (etc.) our heirs (etc.) that in the case of the breach aforesaid

and the non-payment of the sum aforesaid it shall be lawful for the said emperor (etc.) and aforenamed Prince of Spain or their heirs (etc.) the said sum (etc.) to levy freely upon our

persons and goods (etc.), keep, possess and detain without challenge or resistance.

[We renounce expressly and as a legal compact under the names and qualities given above all and singular exceptions of law and fact and other defences and benefits of law and fact, and generally all appeals, pleas, challenges and benefits of laws and canons by which we may be aided against the premisses or any of them, or other exceptions or defences whatever whereby we may be protected, and in particular we renounce the exception of the non-payment of the penalty by the principal contractors or their kinsfolk at the espousals and matrimony, and (we renounce the benefit of) the law saying that a general renunciation is not binding unless a special one has preceded it.

[Provided that in case the

casu *p*r*e*dicte repudac*ioni*s et non soluc*ioni*s su*m*me p*r*edicte licebit p*r*edicto Imp*e*r*a*tori ut auo (etc.) et p*re*no*mina*ti (*sic*) p*r*incipi Hispan*ie* suisve heredib*us* (etc.) d*ict*am su*m*mam quinqu*a*ginta Millium Coronaru*m* auri et qua*m*libet eius p*ar*tem de & sup*e*r p*er*sonis, bonis mobilib*us* et Immobilib*us* no*st*ris, hered*ibus* (etc.) Co*mmuni*tatu*m*, Ciuiu*m*, et opidoru*m* nostroru*m* vbicu*n*que (etc.) sine cont*r*adicc*ione* aut resistencia quacu*n*que libere exigere, leuare, cap*e*re, possidere et detinere.

Renu*n*ciam*us* in hac p*ar*te expresse et in vim pacti sub no*mini*b*us* et qualitatib*us* quib*us* sup*r*a omnib*us* et sing*u*lis tam Juris q*u*am facti excepc*ionibus* et defenc*ionibus* aliisq*ue* Juris et facti b*e*neficiis et gen*e*raliter omniu*m* legu*m* et canonicu*m* (*sic*) appellac*ionibus*, querelis, p*r*ouocac*ionibus* et beneficiis quib*us* cont*r*a p*r*emissa seu ipsoru*m* aliqua nos Juuare possem*us* seu alias quomodo-

libet[1] tueri et p*r*esertim excepc*ione* pene non soluende p*er* p*r*incipales cont*r*ahentes vel eoru*m* paren*tes* in

sponsalib*us* et matrimoniis apposite ac Juridicenti gen*e*ralem renunciac*ione*m non valere nisi p*r*ocesserit specialis.

Prouiso tamen quod casu quo

[1] Contraction for *-is* follows.

said marriage between the aforesaid Prince of Spain and the Lady Mary is contracted and duly solemnised, or if it should happen that the aforesaid marriage be not contracted and solemnised by reason of failure on the part of the Prince of Spain (etc.) or his death or the death of either of the contracting parties (which God forfend) or otherwise than through the action of the Lady Mary and her side, or if the aforesaid sum of 50,000 gold crowns in these cases or in any of them has been fully paid, our present letters shall be quashed and be of no moment nor efficacy, and shall be restored to us in good faith by the abovesaid emperor, the Prince of Spain, or either of them, or their heirs (etc.), ambassadors, or proxies deputed to that end. In faith and testimony of all and singular we, the earls (etc.) have signed and sealed with the seals of our arms these our present letters patent, we indeed the mayors (etc.) have caused to be corroborated, and corroborated (the same) with the common seals of our cities and towns.

dictum matrimonium *inter prefatum* principem Hispanie et *dominam* Mariam contrahatur et debite solempnisetur, aut si *per prefatum* principem Hispanie vel parentes suos, vel eorum aliquem aut alium quemcunque aut *per* mortem alterius contrahencium (quod Deus auertat) *per* quemcunque alium modum vel euentum *preterquam per prefatam dominam* Mariam aut eius *partem* steterit quominus dictum matrimonium locis (etc.), ut *prefatur*, contrahatur et solempnizetur, vel si *predicta* summa quinquaginta millium coronarum auri in casibus *predictis* vel eorum aliquo plene fuerit soluta, *presentes nostre litere* tanquam casse et irrit[e] nulliusque momenti aut efficacie [et] nobis *per prefatum* Imperatorem, principem Hispanie vel eorum alterum, eorumve heredes et successores aut eorum oratores vel procuratores ad hoc deputatos bona fide restituantur. In quorum omnium et singulorum fidem et testimonium *presentes literas nostras* patentes nos Comites, barones[1] et domini *predicti* manibus *nostris* signauimus et sigillis armorum *nostrorum* sigillauimus, Nos uero Maiores, aldermanni, vicecomites, balliui, constabularii et Communitates Ciuitatum et opidorum *predictorum* sigillis Communibus *nostris* fecimus communiri et communiuimus.

[1] MS. barores.

RIC. SMYTH, MAYOR, 1508.

[1]¶ [Election of officers.] "Civitas Couentre." Jan. 25.

Joh. Duddesbury, Hen. Merler, Tho. Bayly, Ric. Lee, Joh. Padlonde, Tho. Churchman, Will. ffoorth, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Ric. Jakson, Tho. Wardelowe, Joh. Saunders, Joh. Derlyng, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Herdwen, Ric. Merler, Ric. ffoxhale, Will. Wygston, Rog. Chambur, Edw. Hulcote, Ric. Nores, Joh. Cysyll, Tho. fforth, Will. Banwell.

[m. Ric. Smyth; cor. Joh. Rastell; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Tho. Hyll, Ric. Ryse; w. Will. Rokardyne, Hen. Wall; crier, Ric. ffereby; mace, Hen. Walker.] Officers.

Mem. it is agreed at this elecc*i*on that the above-namyd Hen. Walker, co*m*en se*r*iaunt, shall kepe clene the Grey-ffrere yate, as well within as *with*out, vnto a ce*r*teyn place callid the watryng-place; and in like-wyse the Cook-strete yate; and yf he do not to set in on his wage*s* the carying a-way therof etc. The common sergeant to keep clean Grey-friar and Cook Street gates.

ROGER A LEE.

Mem. at this elecc*i*on ther was on Rog. a Lee, Baker, elect & chosyn in-to the office of the Chamberleynship for the yere foloyng; which Rog*er*, as sone as he herde he was chosen chamberleyn, came before *Maister* Meyre & his brethern, and shewid them he was not abull to occupy the seid Rome, and prayed them he myght be dischargid. Wheruppon ther was made ferther inquirre of hym whedir he were abull or noo. And ther it came to knolege afore them all that the seid Rog*er* had *with* his wif, oon John Pachet*te*s doughter, in redy money & plate xxx li., and also it was right well knowen that he hadde right largely of his owne, or els the seid Joh. Pachet wold not haue maried his doughter to hym; and also the seid Rog*er* was for-boron and put of from the seid office by the space of iij yere afore at the instaunce of the seid Joh. Pachet; and so it was thought he was able y-nought for the rome, [2] "Rog. a Lee chosen Chamberlaine." "Refused" the office, though the extent of his wife's dowry points to his being a man of substance, and able to fill it,

[1] leaf 300. Scribe G. The mayor is described as "Maior Ciuitat*is* siue ville."

[2] The marginal annotations are here through lack of space written at the foot of the leaf.

if he wold. And þer he was louyngly entretid by dyuerse of my seid maisters, that is to sey, by *Maister* Rob. a Grene then Meire, *Maister* Will. ffoorth, *Maister* Joh. Haddon, *Maister* Will. Pysforde, *Maister* Ric. Jakson, to take the office appon hym, and they wold see he shuld haue no loose therby, but a forberyng a litell money for a tyme. Also they offerid hym to lene hym certeyn money tyll such tyme as he had gaderid it up a-geyn of the seid office, and so no loose to hym. Yet not-with-stondyng all thes offers he vtterly refusid the seid office and wold not take it uppon hym in no wyse.

in spite of persuasion and offers of a loan

he persists in his refusal.

Wheruppon *Maister* Meire & his brethern seyng his obstynacye and ffrowordnesse, commaundid hym in peyne of a C li. that he shuld not depart the Citee nor inbesell[1] noon of his goodes out þerof, and also to be foorthcomyng at all tymes afore *Maister* Meyre & his brethern when he shal-be send fore, apon the peyne afore rehersid, and answere to such thynges as shuld be leyed to his charge.

He is ordered on pain of £100 not to embezzle any of his goods.

Feb. 2. The officers come to S. Mary's Hall,

And after apon Candilmas day next foloyng *Maister* Meyre with *Maister* Ric. Smyth, then newe elect meire, and my maisters, the aldermen, went in-to seynt Mary hall a-bowte ix of the clok, with such oþer officers as then & ther shuld be sworon, and take þer charge accordyng to the olde custome of the cite afore-tyme vsid. And then & þer in opyn audiance the seid Rog. a Lee was callid thryes solemply to com in and exercise the seid office of chamberleynship of the Citee which he was elect & chosyn in. And the seid Roger cam not but made defaute. And after that the seid Roger was callid a-yen thryes solemply to come and occupy the seid office apon peyn of C li.; and the seid Roger cam not, but eftsons made defaute. Wheruppon *Maister* Rob. a Grene, then beyng meyre, by the aduyse of my maisters, the aldermen, cawsid a newe election of xxiiij accordyng to the olde custome; which xxiiij aforenamyd went into the counsell house and ther inmediatly chosyn Tho. Hyll afor-namyd to be an of the Chamberleyns in the stede of the seid Rog. a Lee.

and Roger is solemnly summoned,

"caled 6 times. Refused: ffined 100 li.[2] (*sic*),

And then within a while after this new election the

[1] = convey away secretly.

[2] This gloss is incorrect; Roger was only bound over in £100.

seid Rog. a Lee cam in-to the hall; and as sone as *Maister* Meyre saw hym he commaundid hym to warde, þer to remayn vnto such tyme as they wold be aduysed what punyshement he shuld haue for his mysdemener, and also for the parlous example that he hath shewid [1] to other in like cas so to do, which was neuer seyn afore. And after at the especiall instaunce of his freyndes the seid Roger was let to bayll to certayn of his ffrendes, which were bounde for hym to *Maister* Meyre in an obligacion of a C li. apon condicion that he shuld be foorth-comyng afore *Maister* Meyre & his brethern at eny tyme when he shalbe callid, and also to pay such fynes & mercimentes that shall hereafter be sett appon hym for his seid mysdemener & yl-example. And after the Wennysday the xxiiij day of May the xxiiij yere afore-rehersid at seynt Mary hall a-fore *Maister* Meire, *Maister* Duddesbury M.G.S.T.,[2] *Maister* Merler, *Maister* Grene, *Maister* Baylly, *Maister* Churcheman, *Maister* Padlonde, *Maister* Haddon, *Maister* Pysford, *Maister* Saunders, *Maister* Strong, *Maister* Hassall, *Maister* Hulcote, *Maister* Barbour, *Maister* Clerk, *Maister* ffoxhale, *Maister* Grove, *Maister* Rogers, *Maister* Heynes, the foreseid mater was spokyn of amonges them all; and there they were fully agreed that the seid Rog. a Lee for his mysdemener and also for the yll example that he had giffen to oder shuld pay for his ffyne xx li. of lawfull money to þe behoof & profet of the seid Citee, and yet not to be dischargid of the seid office for euer but to be at the plesure of *Maister* meyre & his brethern when they list to call hym to the seid office etc.

and imprisoned."

May 24, 1508.

[3] "20 li. paid ffor Refusing to be Chamberlin, & yet Liable to serue when Again Elected.", "Roger Lee ffyned for Refusing to be Chamberleyn." [3]

LEETS.

[4] ¶ [V. f. p. held before Ric. Smyth, m., Tho. Grove, Hen. Rogers, b., on Tuesday after the feast of SS. Philip and James, 23 Hen. VII.]

"Couentre." May 2.

Joh. Duddesbury, Hen. Merler, Rob. Grene, Tho. Baylly, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Ric. Jakson, Tho. Wardlowe, Joh. Saunders, Joh. Strong, Ric.

Electors.

[1] leaf 300, back. [2] "maister of Trinite gilde."
[3—3] These two glosses are in different hands; hence tautology.
[4] leaf 301.

Hassall, Edw. Hulcote, Joh. Derlyng, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Clerk, Ric. ffoxhall, Will. Wygston, Hugo Dawes, Tho. ffoorth, Joh. Mors, Will. Dawson, Tho. Kelyngworth, Ric. Ryse.

Orders of leet. Tho. Empson elected joint recorder.

ffirst, at this lete we amytt, elect, & chese *Maister* Tho. Empson to occupy and be in the office of Recordership in the Citee of Couentre ioyntly *with* *Maister* *Sir* Ric. Empson, his ffader; and he to occupy the seid office in the absens of his ffader as Recorder of the Citee etc.

Draught-houses to be removed or 20*s*. fine;

Item, [ordained] that the shirreffs goo & vewe the *Co*men diche behynde the Pecok[1] in the Crosse-chepyng that gooth from *Maister* Hen. Merlers vnto the West-orcherd, and see that the draughtes be takyn a-wey betwene this and Midsom*er* next, apon [peyn] of eu*er*y man that hath eny draught there after Midsom*er* to leese xx s., and if the shirreff*es* see this not doon they to lese for *þer* nondoyng xx s. Also it is ordeyngned in like cas that no man haue eny draught*es* or oder noyaunc*es* in the Red-diche from Litell-p*ar*ke-strete to the Jurdenwell, nor no grat*es* except such as woll kepe out muk; and that the Cou*er* no place of the seid dich or gutter, which of olde tyme hath be kept opyn, in peyn of eu*er*y man doyng the contrarie for eu*er*y defaute to forfeit xx s., wherof vj s. viij d. to the shirreff*es*, vj s. viij d. to *þe* *Co*men boxe, and vj s. viij d. to the Chamberleyns. And if on Joh. a Woode, or the owner of the grounde, cast not opyn the *Co*men diche as of olde tyme it hath be vsid by-twene this a[n]t Midsom*er* next to loose xx s. to be levyed in forme afore-rehersid etc.

"Comen shores Clensed."

"Ride the bounds of the Countie."

Also it is ordeyngned at this lete that *Maister* Meire & his brethern shall ryde the Circuyte of the ffraunchese by-tweene this and Michelmas next comyng.

"Comen serjant

[Ordained] at this lete that Hen. Peynter, *co*men ser*i*aunt, shall make clene, and see boron a-wey all such muk as lieth *with*out the ffrere-yate to the *Co*men noysaunce, as it was com*m*aundid hym at the last lete by-twene this & Whitsontyde next, uppon peyne of forfeture of his office; and that the seid Henre eu*er*y Saturday wayte apon the

[1] This inn existed until comparatively recent times.

Chamburleyns to see *þer* werkmen payed, that the seid Chamburleyn shall pay for the Co*m*en wele of the Cite, and also to wayte apon theym at all tymes requisite when they goo to gedir their murage money, apon peyn aforerehersid. to wait on þe Chamberlins."

[1] ¶ [V. f. p. held on Tuesday after S. Dionysius' day 24 Hen. VII.] "Couentre." Oct. 10.

Joh. Duddesbury, Hen. Merler, Rob. Grene, Tho. Bayly, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Ric. Jakson, Joh. Saunders, Tho. Turn*er*, sen., Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Rog. Sutton, Rog. Chambur, Ed. Hulcote, Joh. Whitehede, Ric. Merler, Ric. ffoxhall, Nic. Burwey, Will. Wygston, Hen. Wall, Ed. Hadley, Tho. Hyll, Ric. Ryse.

[Humf. Grene, Dyer, Hen. Perkyns, Grasyer.] Sheriffs.

ffirst, [ordained] that all such officers as longyn to the breusters yelde [2] and the stresse-roll*es*, and also the shirrefs officers, that thei shall from-hensforth fynde sufficient suerty to the sherreffs for executyng there offices and also for there good attendaunce. "Sergeantes to find suretys for their places & behauioris."

Also [ordained] that if eny straunger hereafter be disposid to dwell in this Citee, what craft so eu*er* he be of, that he shall dwelle frely w*ith*in the Citee xij monethes & a day w*ith*out any assessement of the maist*er* of the craft of the occupac*i*on that he is, apon the peyn of xl s., but at his fre wyll. "Strangers to be ffree."

[Ordained] that no boocher nor od*ur* of the Citee suffre eny Mastyf dogg*es* to goo at large after vij of the clok at nyght in the wynter and viij of the clok in som*er*; and in the morenyng vij a clok in wynt*er* and v a clok in som*er*, [or 3s. 4d. fine at every default, "holf" to the common box.] "Mastyffe Dogs."

[Ordained] that no man fromhensforth by eny barley or od*ur* greyne at the Townes-ende or els-where, but in the co*m*en Market, or at his own durre, apon peyn of eu*er*y quarter so bought to leese xx d., the on half to the Co*m*en boxe, the other to the shirrefes. Barley to be bought in the open market.

[1] leaf 304.

[2] The city officers apparently collected a quarterage from the victuallers, Corp. MSS. A. 3 (b), leaf 61. v. *supra*, p. 234, and Introduction.

"Nota." The price of shoes. [illeg.]

[Ordained][1] that *Maister* Meire for the tyme beyng shall call to hym vj or viij of his brether and se the reformac*i*on of the p*ri*ce of shoon, botewes[2] and bot*es*; and also to reforme tanners[3] as the case shall require etc.

[Ordained and enacted] that Tho. Warde, barker, from hensforth for dyu*er*se consideracions shall-be dischargid of the office of shirrefwyke of this Citee for eu*er*, payng for his ffyne x m*a*rke to the makyng of the conduyte.

"Against laying muk in Crosscheping."

Also it is ordeigned at this lete that noon of the inh*a*bitaunt*es* of the Crosse-Chepyng ley eny muk or swepyng*es* in the m*a*rket place ther tyll the ffriday at nyght for that it may be caried a-wey on the morow, apon the peyn of eu*er*y defaute iiij d., wherof the ffynder to haue for his laboure j d., and the residue to the co*m*en boxe.

"Sheriffes not levying þe amercementes."

[Agreed and ordained] that the shirrefes for the tyme beyng that if they levey not all the am*er*ciementes that be assessed at the lete*s* that they shall forfete as much money, and that to be leveyed of the shirrefes to the vse of the Co*m*en boxe for eu*er*y defaute etc.

RIC. MARLER, MAYOR, 1509.

"Ciuitas Couentr*i*e." Jan. 25.

[4] ¶ [Election of officers.]

Rob. a Grene, Hen. Merler, Tho. Bayly, Ric. Lee, Joh. Padlonde, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Haddon, Ric. Jakson, Joh. Duddesbury, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Hardwen, Ric. ffoxhale, Joh. Derlyng, Rog. Chambur, Edw. Hulcote, Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Heynes, Joh. Cesyle, Will. Wykam, Ric. Nores, Tho. Hyll, Will. Rocardyne, Hen. Wall, Ric. Ryse.

Officers.

[m. Ric. Merler; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Tho. ffarman, Joh. Crampe; w. Joh. Bonde, Tho. Whyte; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Ric. ffereby.]

EASTER LEET.

"Couentr*e*." Apr. 17.

[5] ¶ [V. f. p. held before Ric. Merler, m., Hum. Grene, Hen. Perkyns, b., on Tuesday after the close of Easter, 24 Hen. VII.]

[1] Leet spelled "let" here. [2] = A short boot.
[3] "as of" inserted in MS. [4] leaf 305.
[5] leaf 305, back.

[1]Rob. Grene, Hen. Merler, Tho. Bayly, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Ric. Jakson, Joh Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Will. Wygston, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Saunders, Ed. Hulcote, Joh. Humfrey, Ric. ffoxhale, Nic. Burwey, Nic. Heynes, Tho. Grove, Hen. Rogers, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Whitehede.[1] Jury.

[2]ffirst, [ordained] that the ffeliship and occupac*i*on of Coruesers fromhensfurth shall pay & bere *with* the craft of Tanners toward ther charg*es* xiij s. iiij d. in lyke wise as M*aister* Ric. Smyth did com*m*aunde them when he was Meyre[3] tyll hit be better enquerid of etc.[2] Order of leet. Corvisers and tanners' pageant.

CHRONICLE.

[4]M*em*. that this yere dyed kuyng (*sic*) Henry the vij[th] the xxij day of April; and he g*r*aunted byfore his deth a gen*e*rall p*ar*don of all man*er* of hawte tresons, pety tresons, felonyes, Rob*er*yes etc. And after his deth his son kuyng Henry the viij[th] ratyfied and confermid the same with more larger word*es* for all man*er* of trespasses, brekyng of statut*es*, mysvsyng of offices *with* dyu*er*se oder articles doon before the xxiij day of April then begynnyng his Reyne etc. And the seid Henry the vij[th] dyed at Rychemount the day afore-rehersid and was brought to London in-to Pollys *with* many nobles of the Realme & grete nombre of torches and a grete nombre of peple both on horsbak & afote. And after iij dayes beyng in Poll*es* he was brought to Westmynster; and ther he lieth & his quene Elizabeth *with* hym in a newe chapell which he causid to be made in his lyffe; on whoos saule Jh*es*u haue m*er*cy. And his son kyng Henry the viij[th] was crownyd the same yere at Westm*ynster* the Sonday next after Midsom*er* day. And the same yere ther was an heyre det*er*myner[5] throw-out Ynglond; and ther came dyu*er*se

"King Henre VII died." Apr. 22. He granted a pardon which

his son ratified.

The late king lay in state at S. Paul's and

was buried at Westminster,

on whose soul Jesu have mercy! Henry VII is crowned July 1. An oyer and terminer held throughout the kingdom.

[1–1] Transposed. In the MS. the first order precedes the jury list.

[2–2] Transposed. [3] *i. e.* in 1508.

[4] leaf 305. See for Henry VIII's charter of pardon Corp. MSS. B. 55.

[5] an eyre of justices of oyer and terminer = special courts held by commissioners to hear and determine certain causes.

commyssioners to this Citee of Couentre, that is to sey, *Maister* Joh. ffyssher, on of the Justices of the comen place, and *Maister* Guy Palmer, the kinges seriaunt, Sir Ed. Ralegh, knyght,[1] Sim. Dygby of Colshull,[2] Ric. Hongerford,[3] esquyer. And the Meyre of Couentre was the cheef commyssioner for the Citee, & was namyd by his name, Ric. Merler, Meyre of the Citee of Couentre, and he kept the chere thre dayes in the Jeyll halle contynually etc.

WHITLEY AGAIN.

June 10. [4] *Mem.* that the x[th] day of June this same yere ther cam on[5] Laur. Walgraue of Whitley afore *Maister* Meyre & his brethern & made a grete seyng to them that he had grete wrong in certeyn ffyldes a this half Whitley by the comens of Couentre, and that he wold compleyne fferther if he had no remedy theryn. Wheruppon *Maister* Meyre & his brethern let make a-semble at seynt Mary hall of the most honest commyners of the Cite to the nombre of xlviij persons or moo; and ther the Meyre shewid them of the troubles mynde of the seid Laurence, & how he was disposid toward the Citee.

Laur. "Walgrave"

complains of wrong done by the commoners of Coventry in certain fields.

And ther it was conducendid & agreed by all the hoole assemble at that tyme that the seid Laurence shuld be answerid to eny thyng that he wold ley to the charge of the Citee in-soo-much that euery man that was þer offered to bere ther parties in money to defende his froward mynde & malice, and so was the answere gyffen to hym by *Maister* Meyre that he shuld be answerid to eny thyng that he wold sey or do.

An assembly in S. Mary's Hall agrees to support the corporation in any action.

And then the seid Laurence aduysed hymself better and toke counsell of his ffryndes and came ayen in-to the counsell howse a-fore *Maister* Meyre & his brethern the xxviij day of the same moneth and with feyre wordes

Walgrave withdraws, and June 28

[1] Of Farnborough, Warwickshire. *v.* Dugdale, 382.
[2] *v. ib.* p. 720.
[3] The Hungerfords held Woodcote near Warwick. Ric. Hungerford was also a lessee of the manor of Brailes, *ib.* 190, 397.
[4] leaf 306, back.
[5] It is difficult to distinguish this scribe's a from o. Is it on or an, answered or onswered, apon or opon?

shewyng that he was on of the Citee, & that he wold be loth to make ony besynes *with* hit. And if it wold please *Maister* Meyre & his brethern to gif hym a *cer*teyn money he wold bryng in the euidences of the same ffylde*s*, so that the Cite shuld be out of stryf for eu*er*. And it was answered to hym þat if he had eny such euydense or writyng if he brought them in he shuld haue the good love of the Citee, but as for eny other gif they know not wherfore; but if he wold doo so kyndly to bryng them in he shuld be kyndly dalt *with*all. And then he wold nede*s* know what he shuld haue. And he was answerid by *Maister* Meyre be-fore his brethern in the counsell howse that he shuld haue a potell of wyne, & if it were a galon it was well, & more he shuld not haue by *pro*myse, but as they founde hym kynde so they wold loke appon hym. And if he list to bryng them yn thus he shuld haue good thanke, and if not then to kepe them and do his best.

proposes to surrender his evidence for a consideration.

The mayor cannily offers only a pottle of wine—and thanks.

And then after the ixth day of July the seid Larence brought in ij boxys of euydens, amonge*s* the which ther was a tripa*r*tite exemplified vnder the kynge*s* brode seall, the which he wold haue had a-geyn. And it was answerid him if he list to see hit if he came at eny tyme resonable he shuld see it *with* good wyll. And then *with* his feyre peynted worde*s* and his insessaunt labour he hadde of *Maister* Meyre & his brethern at on[1] tyme & other to the some of ,[2] the which was more then eu*er* he dese*r*uyd or eu*er* woll etc.

After Jul. 9 Walgrave brings in his evidence

and gets something from the mayor therefor with fair painted words. "Variance About ffeild on this side Whitley ended."

MICHAELMAS LEET.

[[3] V. f. p. held on Tuesday after Michaelmas, 1 Hen. VIII.]

"Couentre." Oct. 2.

Rob. Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Ric. Jakson, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Will. Wygston, Joh. Clerk, Tho. Turnou*r*, sen., Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Saunders, Edw. Hulcote, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Whitehedde, Joh. Hardwen,

[1] See note 5 on p. 626. [2] Blank.
[3] leaf 306.

Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Heynes, Tho. Grove, Hen. Rogers, Tho. fforman, Joh. Cramp.

Sheriffs. [Tho. ffoorth, Will. Perkyns.]

Orders of leet. "Bounds of County." [Ordained] that *cer*tayn p*er*sons shall goo & see the Meres and bound*es* of the shire of Couentr*e*; and there as lacketh eny merestones to set newe in all such p[l]ac*es*. And the namys of them that be namyd to ryde heraft*ur* foloyn, that is to sey, M*aister* Rob. Grene, M*aister* Joh. Padlonde, M*aister* Joh. Haddon, M*aister* Will. Pysford, M*aister* Ric. Jakson, M*aister* Ric. Smyth, M*aister* Tho. Turnou*r* the elder, M*aister* Tho. Grove, M*aister* Joh. Boteler, Tho. ffarman, Joh. Cramp, Joh. Bonde, Tho. White; and they to ryde as sone as may be conuenyent, and, if it may be, on Thursday next etc.

[Agreed] that M*aister* Meyre and *cer*tayn of his brethern by-twene thus & Saturday next comyng goo and vewe

The wall and ditch. the Towne Wall; and to see the Co*m*en noysaun3ses in the Towne dych, and make reformac*i*on þ*er*of by there discrec*i*ons etc.

THE RECORDER.

[Ant. ffitzherberde[1] was elected recorder of this city in the time of Ric. Merler about the end of his year.]

JOH. SAUNDERS, MAYOR, 1510.

"Ciuitas Couentr*ie*." Jan. 25. [2] ¶ [Election of officers.]

Ric. Smyth, Tho. Baylly, Ric. Lee, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysforde,[3] Ric. Jakson, Joh. Duddesbury, Joh. Hardwen, Joh. Clerk, Rog. Chambur, Edw. Hulcote, Joh. Derlyng, Joh. Whitehede, Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Heynes, Tho. Grove, Hen. Rogers, Tho. ffarman, Joh. Crampe, Ric. Nores, Hugh Dawes, Will. Wykam.

[1] Empson was executed after the death of Henry VII. Fitzherbert (1470–1528) was the author of numerous books on legal matters; and the *Boke of Husbandrie* is sometimes attributed to him, v. *Eng. Hist. Rev.* ix., p. 305. His wife was daughter of Sir Hen. Willoughby of Middleton (Mr. Stevenson) and Wyken, *see* Dugdale, 88.

[2] leaf 307. No mention of the recorder.

[3] See his will in Dugdale (1730), 184–5. He was associated with Ford in the foundation of Ford's or Greyfriars' Hospital, which is still standing.

[m. Joh. Saunders; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Ric. Heryng,[1] grocer, Will. Tylet; w. Tho. Rowley, Ric. Kemsey; mace, Hen. Peynter; crier, Ric. ffereby.] Officers.

Mem. it is agreed at this eleccion that the Comen seriaunt shal-be sworon that he shall make a true accompt euery yere of all the vacande grounde a-bowte the Citee to Maister Meyre & his brethern when the Chamburleyns make theire accompt; and also he shall gif his due attendaunce apon the Chamburleyns, as well the olde as the newe, at all tymes to execute þer office without takyng eny thyng for his laboure but mete & drynk, in peyn of forfeture of his office. "Comen seriant." "Comen seriant to waite on þe Chamberlins ffor his diett."

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

[[2] V. f. p. held before Joh. Saunders, m., Tho. fforth, Will. Perkyns, b., on Thursday after the close of Easter, 1 Hen. VIII.] "Couentre." Apr. 11.

Ric. Smyth, Rob. Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlande, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysforde, Ric. Jakson, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Merler, Joh. Hardwen, Tho. Turnour, sen., Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Clerk, Rog. Sutton, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Derlyng, Joh. Whitehede, Joh. Humfrey, Ric. ffoxhale, Tho. Grove, Nic. Heynes, Ed. Hulcote, Ric. Heryng.

ffirst, [ordained] that euery alderman in his warde as oft as he thynketh necessarie shall take too or thre Constabuls with him and make serche in his warde for all them that kepe mysrule in þer howses, and such as they fynde fawty to commyt them to warde or oder punyshement as they thynke is necessarie for them; and if they wyl-not mende by that, then to cause them to bannysh[3] the Citee. And also the seid alderman sholl gif knolege to þer londlorde or to his baylly if the londlorde be absent that they waren[4] all such suspect persons to departe from there tenure and to set there well-disposid persons etc. "Aldermen search in their wards" and banish thence undesirables.

[Agreed] that no inhabitaunt or Citezen within the

[1] Probably an ancestor of the Puritan divine, Julines Herring.
[2] leaf 308. [3] = to be banished. [4] = warn.

"For gre-b[un]des." Citee or the suborbes of the same kepe eny greunde[1] or grey bech[2] from this day forwarde, but if he may dispende xl s. by yere above all charges, apon [the peyn] to forfeite for the furst fawte xl d., the secunde vj s. viij d., and euery defawte after x s., this peyn to be leueyed by the sheriffes, the oon half to ther owne vse and the other half to the comen boxe. And this to be executyd without eny fauour accordyng to the actes of parlement etc.

"Couentre." Oct. 1. [3][V. f. p. held on Tuesday after Michaelmas, 2 Hen. VIII.]

Ric. Smyth, Rob. a Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Merler, Joh. Hardwen, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Clerk, Edw. Hulcote, Joh. Whitehede, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Grove, Hen. Rogers, Hum. Grene, Hen. Perkyns, Will. Wykam, Ric. Heryng, Will. Tylet, Ric. Kemsey.

Sheriffs. [Tho. Waren, Dyer, Tho. Astleyn, Baker.]

Orders of Leet. "viij persones in euerie warde" to [Ordained] that Maister Meyre that now ys shall euery weke on day in the weke shall let call afore hym viij persons of substaunse within a warde, shewyng to them for a substaunce or stok to be hadde within this Citee for such certayn Charges that casually shall come vnto the Citee; that it is thought euery warde shal-be commenyd with by viij of the substaunce of such warde what enprowement[4] myght be hadde in the Comen-ffe[5] or other opprowment[6] or profite myght ryse vnto the Comen Weele of the Citee as haue be made afore-tyme, as of receyuyng of prentyses & such other; and to know the good myndes of euery warde in the premysses; or if eny other wyse wey myght be founde for the increse of such stok, as is afore-seid. And that the seid viij persons shall make relacion to Maister Meyre of there myndes; and that euery weke Maister Meyre let call viij persons vnto the tyme that all the x wardes be pervsed.[7]

report to the mayor any scheme for the improvement of the city and the increase of s funds.

[1] ME. grehunde. [2] Female of grey-hound.
[3] leaf 308, back. [4] = improvement. [5] or ? Comensee.
[6] Approvement = profit, esp. profit arising from the enclosure of common lands.
[7] peruse = to go through in order.

JOH. STRONG, MAYOR, 1511.

[1] ¶ [Election of officers.] "Ciuitas Couentrie." Jan. 25.

Ric. Merler, Rob. a Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Rog. Chamber, Joh. Whitehede, Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Heynes, Hen. Rogers, Humf. Grene, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. fforth, Will. Perkyns, Ric. Heryng, Will. Tylet, Tho. Rowley, Nic. Kemsey, Ric. Nores, Will. Banwell, Will. Brygges.

m. Joh. Strong; rec. Ant. ffitzherberde; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Nic. Hobson, Tho. Goppeshyll; w. Joh. Hopkyns, Tho. Burden; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Ric. ffereby. Officers.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

[2] ¶ [V. f. p. held before Joh. Strong, m., Tho. Waren, Tho. Astlyn, b., on Tuesday after the close of Easter, 3 Hen. VIII.] "Ciuitas Couentrie." Apr. 29.

Ric. Merler, Rob. a Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysforde, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Joh. Saunders, Rog. Chambur, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Whytehede, Humf. Grene, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. fforth, Will. Perkyns, Ric. Burwey, Nic. Hobson, Tho. Gopeshyll, Joh. Smyth, Ric. Nores, Ric. Heryng, Will. Brygges.

[Ordained] that where the Comen dyches & Comen gutters of the Citee byn gretely anoyed[3] with castyng of muke & ffilth in them and also in swepyng of ther fylth in-to the same by dyuerse yll-disposid persons, contrarie to all good rule of the Citee; therfore it is ordeyned (etc.) that euery persone that is fromhensforth takyn with eny such fawte shall pay for euery defaute ij d. to the Comen boxe and a peny to the constable for his fyndyng; and that euery persone fromhensforth after there swepyng bere a-wey the same, apon the same peyn. Orders of Leet. Filth in the river. 2*d.* fine.

[Ordained] that no man fromhensforth cast yn-to the The river.

[1] leaf 309. New recorder mentioned as to be elected.
[2] leaf 309, back. There is an illegible heading to this page.
[3] annoy = to affect injuriously (*N. E. D.*).

comen Ryuer eny muk or ffilth, or in eny other maner streite or stop the same with eny maner of thyng, he to lese fromhensforth for euery defaute xl d., iij s. to the comen box, & iiij d. to the constable that fyndeth it.

Fish water.

[Ordained] that no man cast owte eny ffyshwater that ffysh hath ben watered yn after iiij of the Clok in the mornyng & afore ix of the clok at nyght, [or 2d. to the common box and 1d. to the constable that finds it.]

"No ffishmonger to buy butter to sell."

[Ordained] that no ffyshmonger within this Citee by butter to sell but only for his owne howse, apon peyn to forfete for euery defawte iiij d. to the comen box and to the constable that fyndeth the defawte.[1]

Bakers, butchers and fishmongers not to sell candles.

Also it is ordeyned that no baker, bocher, nor ffyshmonger, nor noen such vitaler make nor by eny candell to sell but onely for þer owne howses, apon the peyn of xx s. to the comen box; and the constable that fyndeth the defawte to haue of the same xij d.; and such stuf as they haue now to vtter hit by-twene this and Whitsonday next comyng, apon the same peyn; and also that no chaundler Wynter nor somer sell no candell a-bove a peny a pounde, apon the peyn afore-rehersid etc.

"The gaoler to Atend the mayor and to take no ffees for lodging in the Comon Goale."

Also apon a byll of compleynt put in at this lete by my maisters, the Shirrefs, a-yenst the Jayler how he gaf not his attendaunce apon Maister Meyre and them as he ought to do, and it was seid by[2] hym that he toke larger fees of prisoners then he shuld do: where-fore it is ordeyned (etc.) that euery Jayler of this Citee fromhensforth shall gif his diligent attendaunce apon Maister Meyre as [? at] such tyme as oder officers doo, except it be for charge of prisoners; and also that he shall take no ffee of no man but such as come within the Jayle as prisoners; and also to take nothyng of eny prisoner for no chamber but only for his owne chamber, apon the peyn of lesyng of his office.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Oct. 2.

[3] ¶ [V. f. p. held before Joh. Strong, m., Tho. Waren, Tho. Astlyn, b., on Thursday after Michaelmas, 3 Hen. VIII.]

Ric. Merler, Rob. Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Pad-

[1] ? How is the fine apportioned? [2] = about, concerning.
[3] leaf 310, back.

londe, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Joh. Saunders, Rog. Chambur, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Whithede, Humf. Grene, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. fforth, Will. Perkyns, Joh. Smyth, Tho. Gopeshyll, Nic. Hobson, Joh. Hopkyns, Tho. Burdon, Ric. Kemsey, Will. Bregges, Ric. Herryng.

[Hugh Dawes, Draper, Tho. Turner, Grasyer.] Sheriffs.

[Ordained] that all such groundes, closys, lesues,[1] & pastures that the xlviij men which were chosen by the hoole body of the Citee to vewe all the comen ffyldes abowte the Citee, and byn agreed which may be takyn in at Lammas leuyng sufficient Comen[2]; that they shall be takyn in at Lammas & kept seuerall for the comen wele of the Citee; and the profete of that half yere comyng yerly to be applyed for the comen wele of the Citee; and that they shall soo be vsid accordyng to theyre agrement as long as the Comens be thus content, sauyng euery manys right. And he that vseth hym contrarie to this act or breketh eny parsell therof to forfeit for euery defaute vj s. viij d. to be payed to the comen box and gederid by them þat be lymyted to gedur the rent of the same groundes, prouyded allwey that it is agreed by the seid xlviij; & also by the xxiiij at this lete[3] that the Chamberleyns for the tyme beyng shall euery yere breke opyn at Lammas all the seid closis & pasturis recordyng it for þer Comen and then incontynent to be inclosid ayen.

Orders of leet. By direction of "xlviij" men, chosen by the whole body of the city, a certain proportion of the "Comens" are to be "taken in"

but pro formâ opened every Lammas day.

[Ordeyned] that no capper nor Sherman from this day forward flok,[4] myle or presse cappe or cloth, apon the peyn for euery defaute xx s. to be leueyd in forme foloyng, that is to sey, vj s. viij d. to the Meyre, vj s. viij d. to the Churchwardens, vj s. viij d. to the Comen box.

Cappers and shearmen not to mill cloth.

RIC. HASSALL, MAYOR, 1512.

[5]¶ [Election of officers.] "Ciuitas Couentrie." Jan. 25.

Joh. Saunders, Rob. a Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury,

[1] = meadows.
[2] This scheme must have arisen from a desire to improve the city finances. See above, p. 630.
[3] Supply "it is ordeyned," or words to that effect.
[4] Flock = to cover cloth with flock or wool dust, v. *N. E. D.*
[5] leaf 311.

Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Ric. Hassall,[1] Tho. Grove, Joh. Clerk, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Whithede, Humf. Grene, Nic. Burwey, Nic. Heynes, Hen. *Per*kyns, Tho. fforth, Will. *Per*kyns, Will. Wykam, Nic. Hobson, Joh. Hopkyns, Tho. Burdon.

Officers.

[m. Ric. Hassall; rec. Ant. ffitzherberde; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Ric. Townesende, Rog. Walees; w. Jul. Nethyrmyll,[2] Tho. Dode; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Ric. ffereby.]

EASTER LEET.

"Ciuitas Couentr*ie*." Apr. 20.

[3]¶ [V. f. p. held before Ric. Hassall, m., Hug. Dawes, Tho. Turn*er*, b., on Tuesday before S. George's day, 3 Hen. VIII.]

Joh. Saunders, Rob. a Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Tho. Grove, Joh. Clerk, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Whitehede, Nic. Burwey, Nic. Heynes, Humf. Grene, Hen. *Per*kyns, Tho. fforth, Will. *Per*kyns, Tho. Astlyn, Ric. Townesende, Rog. Wales, Will. Tylet.

Orders of leet. Bakers not to be tallow-chandlers.

[Ordained and enacted] that all such bakers and eu*er*y othe[r] occupac*i*on that were dischargid by leete to occupy or vse the occupac*i*on of Talough-chaundelers that they shall forfeyt the peyn that was made therfore the last yere in M*aister* Stronge*s* tyme then beyng meyre if they medle therw*ith*.[4]

"Assiz off water."

[Ordained] that Will. *Per*kyns, Baker, shall mende thassise of his myll dame, callid Crowe-mylle,[5] and kepe the water there in a resonable course after the olde assise, by-twene this & Holy-rode day[6] next coming, [or 20s. fine.]

Sea-fish

[Ordained] that no p*er*sone w*ith*in the Citee take up no sse ffysh by the panyer nor by the seme,[7] but only take

[1] John S deleted. It is curious that the mayor's name should be among the electors.

[2] Died 1539, and buried in S. Michael's, where his tomb may be seen. The Christian name is here written Julinu*m*.

[3] leaf 311, back. [4] *v.* p. 632.

[5] Name perpetuated in Crow Lane. [6] Sept. 14.

[7] = a load for a pack-horse, *i. e.* 8 bushels.

for there cuttyng if they cut eny viijd. for a seme [or 6s. 8d. fine each time]; and þat no mon nor woman cut no ffysh, but those persons here-writen, that is to sey, Tho. Hobbons, Joh. Colman, Joh. Alysaunder, Laur. Yrelonde, Joh. Halle, Joh. Leeke, Joh. Moseley, or els the ffysshers them-selff [or 6s. 8d. fine each time, half (the on half) to the common box and half to the sheriffs.]

only to be cut by these persons.

[Ordained] that no man nor woman by eny ffresh-water-fysh in the market to sell ayen, but only the bryngers therof to sell it them-self, apon peyn of euery defaute xijd., and at the secunde defawte to pay the peyn and also goo to prison tyll he haue made fyn. Also that no ffysh-monger [buy] no more butter but such as shall serue themself, apon the peyn þat is lymyted in a lete afore this therof made.[1]

Freshwater fish not to be bought to sell again.

"Fish-mongers not to buy butter to sell."

THE RECORDER.

Mem. that in the ffest of the translacion of seynt Swythyn [4 Hen. VIII] *Maister* Antony ffitzherberde then Recorder of the Citee of Couentre cam unto *Maister* Ric. Hassall, [mayor] at seynt Mary hall and shewid to the seid *Maister* Meyre & his brethern that he had so grete besynesse by reason that he was seriaunt of the lawe that he cowde not nor myght not occupy the Rome of Recordership of the seid Citee as he was bounde to doo, and prayed them that they wold take a newe in his Rome, and shewed them on his consciens & honeste that he knew no man so mete for the rome as was on Will. Shelley,[2] a gentylman of good consciens and well lernyd in the lawe of the londe. Wheruppon the seid *Maister* Meyre & his brethern, heryng the good report of the seid *Maister* Will. Shelley and also hauyng diuerse lettres send to them, as well from the Kynges grace as from oder diuerse grete lordes, haue chosen the seid Will. Shelley to be theyre Recorder the same day afore rehersid. At which election

Jul. 15. Fitzherbert resigns the recordership, and recommends

as his successor Will. Shelley,

who is accordingly chosen.

[1] *v.* p. 632.

[2] This recordership not mentioned in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* Shelley (? 1480—? 1549) rose to be recorder of London and justice of the common pleas. The poet, Percy Bysshe Shelley, was descended from one of his brothers.

these persons vnder-writen were at with all there full consent & agrement :—

Ric. Hassall, m., Joh. Saunders, Rob. a Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Tho. Grove, [1]Hugh Dawes, Tho. Turner,[1] Joh. Clerk, Joh. Hardwen, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Whithede, Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Burwey, Nic. Heynes, Hen. Rogers, Humf. Grene, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. fforth, Will. Perkyns, Tho. Astlyn, Joh. Boteler, Joh. Porter, Ric. Townesende, Jul. Nethirmyll, Tho. Dodde, Tho. Smyth, Will. Banwell, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wykam, Tho. White, Tho. Hyll, Will. Dawson, Will. Kemsey.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Oct. 4.

[2]¶ [V. f. p. held on Monday after Michaelmas, 4 Hen. VIII.]

Jury.

Joh. Saunders, Rob. a Grene, Tho. Churchman, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Hadden, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Tho. Grove, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Hardwen, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Whitehede, Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Burwey, Nic. Heynes, Will. Perkyns, Tho. Waren,[3] Hum. Grene,[4] Tho. Rowley, Will. Wykam, Ric. Townesende, Rog. Wales.

Sheriffs.

[Joh. Bonde, Draper, Tho. Smyth.]

Orders of leet.

[Ordained] that all maner of persons fromhensforth that bryng eny woll into the Citee to sell that it be sufficiently wounden, clene and merchanable for the Clothyer without eny ffylth or eny other defaute or disceite, apon the peyn of euery ston so founde fawty the owner to pay therfore ij d. to the Comen box; the faute to be tryed by the sercher, which is amytted[5] perfore; which at the tyme is Tho. Bakon; & he to haue for his labour by discrecion of Maister Meyre & his brethern.

"Search of wooll."

JOH. HARDWEN, MAYOR, 1513.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Jan. 25.

¶ [Election of officers.]

Electors.

Rob. a Grene, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Joh. Saunders,

[1—1] Bracketed as vicecomites = sheriffs. [2] leaf 312, back.
[3] "Ric. Townesende" deleted. [4] "Tho. Waren" deleted.
[5] = admitted, placed in the position of.

Joh. Strong, Joh. Humfrey, Joh. Whitehede, Nic. Burwey, Tho. fforth, Nic. Heynes, Hen. Rogers, Hen. Perkyns, Hugo Dawes, Tho. Turner, Will. Perkyns, Ric. Townesende, Rog. Wales, Jul. Nethyrmyll, Tho. Dodde, Will. Wykam, Tho. Rowley.

Officers.

[m. Joh. Hardwen; rec. Will. Shelley; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Tho. Banwell, Joh. Wylkes; w. Joh. Jette, Hug. White; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Ric. ffereby.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

"Civitas Couentrie." Oct. 11.

[1] ¶ [V. f. p. held before Joh. Hardwen, m., Joh. Bonde, Tho. Smyth, b., on Tuesday after S. Dionysius' day, 5 Hen. VIII.]

Rob. a Grene, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Saunder (*sic*), Joh. Strong, Joh. Clerk, Rog. Chamber, Tho. Grove, Joh. Whitehede, Nic. Burwey, Humf. Grene, Nic. Heynes, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Turner, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Perkyns, Joh. Wylkes, Joh. Jette, Hug. White, Tho. White.

Sheriffs.

[Tho. Rowley, Will. Wykam.]

Sheeps' heads ½*d.* each.

[Enacted and ordained] that fromhensforth no bocher within the Citee sell any shippis hedes with thappurtenaunce to no maner of persone above a halpeny, apon peyn of euery sheppis hede sold a-boue a ob. to forfeit iiij d.

Brewers to continue to brew when malt is dear;

[Enacted] that euery comen bruer within the Citee that hath vsid to bru when malt is of lowe pryse that they from-hensforth bru styll contynually when malt is of a grete pryce, vnder the peyn of euery weke that they so sese to lese euery weke vj s. viij d.; and that they sell no malt owte of the Towne when malt ryseth a-bove v s. the quarter, apon the same peyn; also that no maltmaker, that maketh malt to sell, if it fortune malt to ryse a-bove v s. that they sell no malt out of the Citee tyll it be knowen that the Citee be sufficiently seruyd, apon peyn of xx s. at euery defaute so provyd payed to the comen boxe etc.

but none to be sold outside the city unless the city have enough when the price is more than 5*s.* a quarter.

Mem. apon a byll of compleynt put in at this day by

[1] leaf 313, back.

"No Inholder to be a baker; no baker to be an Inholder."

the Inholders ayenst bakers kepyng ynnes, it was agreed that the bakers kepe no hostryes accordyng to the olde rule of the Citee, nor no Inholder bake horsbrede within them, apon the peyn þeruppon lymyted etc.

THO. GROVE, MAYOR, 1514.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Jan. 25.

¶ [Election of officers.]

Electors.

Joh. Saunders, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Hen. Rogers, Joh. Whitehede, Nic. Heynes, Humf. Grene, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. fforth, Will. Perkyns, Tho. Waren, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Turner, Joh. Bonde, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Banwell, Joh. Wylkes, Will. Banwell.

Officers.

[m. Tho. Grove; rec. Will. Shelley; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Joh. Baker, Sherman, Joh. Smyth, Mason; w. Will. Towres, Draper, Will. Shukborough, draper; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Ric. ffereby.]

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Apr. 27.

[1] ¶ [V. f. p. before Tho. Grove, m., Tho. Rowley, Will. Wykham, b., on Thursday after S. George's day, 6 Hen. VIII.]

Joh. Saunders, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Joh. Clerk, Rog. Chambur, Joh. Humfrey, Joh. Whitehede, Nic. Burwey, Humf. Grene, Tho. fforth, Will. Perkyns, Tho. Waren, Tho. Astlyn, Joh. Smyth, Joh. Baker, Joh. Hopkyns, dyer.

Orders of Leet. "Wevers."

[Enacted] that where the ffeliship of the craft of weuers haue put in at this lete a byll of compleynt a-yenst on Ric. Pastey, weuer, and Rob. Miles, weuer, which haue be founde fauty by þer occupacion,[2] that they fromhensforth shall worch no more in the Cite except they ffynde surety to the master of the occupacion to be true in ther werkyng; and if they be founde fauty theire surete to

[1] leaf 314.

[2] This scribe's characteristic "o" is so like an "a" that I was almost tempted to write "accupacion."

make good for them & to satisfy the party greuyd his damages, apon peyn of euery defaute xx s., wherof vj s. viij d. to the Shirrefs, vj s. viij d. to þe comen boxe, vj s. viij d. to þe craft of weuers.

"Serchers for weauers."

[Ordained] þat þer shal-be made ij serchers of the occupacion of weuers, & they to be sworen afore *Maister* Meyre & his brethern that they shall make true serch of all onlawfull slayes,[1] & þat þer be noen occupied but of a true pych,[2] þat [is] xiij quarters & a half or xiij at þe lest of brede, apon peyn of euery of them þat be founde fauty at eny tyme hereafter, when due serch is made, to pay for euery defaute xx s. in like maner afore-rehersid.

Weavers to deliver no cloth to the owner until viewed by the searchers,

[Agreed] þat no weuer delyuer eny cloth þat he hath wouen to the owner nor to þe fuller tyll the serchers haue seen it whedir it be laufully wrough[t] or no, apon peyn of euery defaute xl d.; and if þer be eny varyance by-twene the weuer & þe owner for the werkemanship þerof, then the seid Serchers to be Juge by-twene them for þe werkmanship, and if þe owner woll not so doo then the weuer to compleyn to *Maister* Meyre & his brethern for his remedy: And the Serchers to haue of euery cloth þat is founde fauty ij d. for þer laboure. Also all such cloth [3]of þe Cite[3] that is put into the con[t]rey to weve þat it be brought vnto the forseid serchers or it be put to þe walkers that it may be seen whedir it be well wouen or not; and if þer be founde faute in þe weuer þat it kepe not they sley[4] & pych[4] as is above writen, then þe peyn to be leveyed apon the seid fauty cloth. Also þat the weuers sorte there yaron from coklyng,[5] bondyng[6] or pynrouyng,[7] apon the payn aforeseid. Mem. that ther is amytted to be serchers for this yere foloyng Joh. Locok & Will. Osgathorp.

who have for reward 2*d.* for each defective piece of cloth.

Yarn to be even and of the same thickness.

"Serchers for walkers."

[Ordained] for the walkers that þer shal-be ij serchers

[1] A weaver's reed. "Its purpose is to keep the threads (ends) straight and in position, to act as guide for the shuttle, and to push the woven weft close against its predecessor." *E. D. D.* s. v. Slay.

[2] Pitch = ? breadth. It is now usual to speak of the depth of the weaver's reed. Quarter = 9 inches.

[3–3] Deleted. [4] See above. [5] = puckering.

[6] Is this connected with band = a fault in cloth caused by the shrinking of the defective weft, whereby tight strips appear? *N. E. D.* s. v. Band.

[7] Pinrow = a streak in cloth caused by mixed shades of weft. (*E. D. D.*)

chosen & sworen afore M*aister* Meyre & his brethern to make due serch þ*at* non of the occupac*i*on occupy Cardes, rought[1] tesels nor no nod*ur* meane wherby eny cloth is hurted, nor wrong-half[2] no cloth but only vse dobyns[3] or smoth tesyls, apon peyn of eu*er*y defaute xx s. to be payed as a-fore is rehersid to þe Shirrefs, the co*m*en box & the walkers.

Cloth to be properly dressed.

[Ordained] that the serchers make due serch apon þ*er* othes that the cloth be truly burlyd & able cloth made or els to c*er*tifie the faute to M*aister* Meyre & his brethern; and that euery ffuller set his marke apon the cloth that he fullith, apon peyn of xl d.; and that no fuller delyu*er* his cloth by hym fullyd tyll the serchers haue sene it whedir it be truly wrought or no, apon the same peyn; and the serchers to haue for ther laboure for eu*er*y fauty cloth ij d., and if the own*er* woll not gif the ffuller for his labour as it is worth, then the p*ar*ty greuyd to co*m*pleyn to M*aister* Meyre & his brethern if þe serchers cannot agre them. Also þ*er* be amytted serchers for the walkers Joh. Bradwell & Rauf Worsley.

Fullers.

[Agreed] that no walker take out no cloth aftir it is put into the stok[4] tyll it be fully stokkyd, [or 20s. fine]; and also that they put no cappis in the myll among the cloth [or 6s. 8d. fine]; and also that the Cappers myll no cappes on the Sat*er*day after evunsong nor the Sonday tyll evunsong be don [or 6s. 8d. fine to the common box.]

Cappers not to work from Saturday evening till Sunday evening.

Spinners to receive 2½ lb. to a weight.

[Agreed] that eu*er*y clothmaker that putteth eny Woll to spynne that he put no more to the weight but ij lib. & d*im*.; and that they gif for the spynning of eu*er*y weight in redy money for the best v d. and the secunde iiij d.

"Ciuitas Couentr*ie*." Oct. 5.

[5] [V. f. p. held on Thursday after Michaelmas, 6 Hen. VIII.]

Joh. Saunders, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Haddon, Joh. Pad-

[1] = ? rough.

[2] Evidently some operation which involved turning cloth on the wrong side.

[3] This word, not to be found in dictionaries, is evidently connected with *dub* = to strike cloth with teazles in order to raise the nap (Glouc.), v. *E. D. D.* (Dr. Bradley).

[4] An instrument used in milling cloth. "When the cloth comes in the loom the threads may be counted; after it has been in the stocks it is much more difficult." v. *E. D. D.* s. v. Stock.

[5] leaf 314, back.

londe, Will. Pysforde, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Joh. Hardwen, Hen. Rogers, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Burwey, Nic. Heynes, Tho. fforth, Will. Perkyns, Tho. Waren, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Baker, Joh. Smyth, Jul. Nethyrmyll, Joh. Hopkyns.

Sheriffs.

[Tho. Whyte, Ric. Burwey.]

The common fields.

[Enacted] that such persons as byn assigned to gedir the rent of the ffyldes that be takyn in of the Comens that they shall come in with theire accompt by-twene this and the ffest of All halows day next comyng for the yeres that be past.

Tanners' apprentices to pay but 6*s.* 8*d.* for freedom;

[Ordained] that fromhensforth no maner of person that hath be prentyse at Tanners craft within pe Citee pay to the craft at his settyng up but vj s. viij d.; and euery straunger of the same Craft to pay to the Craft no more but xx s., & it to be payed within thre yeres.

strangers 20*s.*

The crafts' fines to be moderated by the mayor and council.

Also that euery craft bryng in there boke afore Maister Meyre & his brethern, that all such fautes as be in them may be correctid & amendid by thaduise of Maister Meyre & his brethern; and if there ffynes be to moch to moderate them after good consciens at such tyme as Maister Meyre commaundeth them etc.

JOH. CLERK, MAYOR, 1515.

"Ciuitas Couentrie."

¶ [Election of officers.]

Jan. 25.

Joh. Hardwen, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysforde, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Merler, Joh. Saunders, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Nic. Burwey, Nic. Heynes, Hum. Grene, Tho. fforth, Will. Perkyns, Tho. Waren, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Turner, Joh. Bonde, Tho. Smyth, Will. Wykam, Joh. Baker, Joh. Smyth.

Officers.

[m. Joh. Clerk; rec. Will. Shelley; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Tho. Lee, Ric. Westley; w. Will. Cook, Ric. Povey; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Ric. ffereby.

THE RECORDER.

Feb. 12.

[1] Mem. that the Munday next afore the ffest of seynt Valantyne the martyr [6 Hen. VIII] ther was assemble

[1] leaf 316.

at senynt (*sic*) Mary Hall afore *Maister* Joh. Clerk then Meyre and his brethern for the eleccion and Chewsyng of a new Recorder of the Citee of Couentre in-so-

"Eleccion of a Recorder."

m[o]ch as *Maister* Will. Shelley, then Recorder, hadde giffen them warnyng that he cowde not gif his attendance apon my seid maisters in that office as he ought to do. Wheruppon my seyde maisters callyng to them the worshipfull of the Cite, as well they that hadde byn Meyres and Shirrefs as other onest persons, the day, yere & place afore rehersid, and went to a newe eleccion; at whiche eleccion these persons whose namys ar underwriten were thoo that mad it.

Maister Joh. Hardwen, *Maister* Joh. Padlonde, *Maister* Joh. Haddon, *Maister* Will. Pysford, *Maister* Joh. Duddesbury, *Maister* Ric. Merler, *Maister* Joh. Saunders, *Maister* Joh. Strong, *Maister* Ric. Hassall, *Maister* Tho. Grove, *Maister* Nic. Burwey, *Maister* Joh. Humfrey, *Maister* Tho. fforth, *Maister* Will. Perkyns, *Maister* Tho. Waren, *Maister* Tho. Astlyn, *Maister* Hug. Dawes, *Maister* Tho. Turner, *Maister* Tho. Smyth, *Maister* Will. Wykan, Joh. Porter, Tho. Lee, Ric. Westley, Julyns Nethermyll.

Swyllyngton elected.

Which chosen at that day Rauff Swyllyngton[1] Recorder of the Citee of Couentre for that yere foloyng; and how the seid Recorder and the *Maister* of the Trinite Gilde for the tyme beyng shall goo to-gedyr in assembles & metynges and the Meyre to goo alone by hymself; also he

"The Recorder to be resident."

is chosen on this condicion to dwelle amonges vs for the most part of the yere, & in especiall the wynter season, and not to entre into the rome tyll after Estur sessions be endid next comyng etc.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Apr. 17.

[2]¶ [V. f. p. held before Joh. Clerk, m., Tho. White, Ric. Burwey, b., on Tuesday after the close of Easter, 6 Hen. VIII.]

Joh. Hardwen, Rob. Grene, Joh. Padlonde, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Merler

[1] The effigies of Swyllington and his wife are in S. Michael's.
[2] leaf 315.

Joh. Saunders, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Tho. Grove, Nic. Burwey, Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Heynes, Hum. Grene, Tho. fforth, Tho. Waren, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Smyth, Will. Wykam, Tho. Lee, Ric. Westley, Tho. Banwell.

Order of leet.

[Enacted] that ffromhensforth there shal-be a ffeliship of Taloughchaundelers among themself, and to be a ffeliship of them-self, and to haue a maister among them as oder craftes haue; and þat no ffyshmonger, sherman, nor no oder craft within the Cite occupy the seid craft, but only for his owne houshold, [or 20s. fine each time to the common box.] And that the seid Chaundelers serue the Cite sufficiently wynter & somer for a peny a pounde; and if eny defaute be prouyd ayenst any of them afore Maister Meyre for the tyme beyng to forfeite x s. to the comen boxe.

"Chaundlers" to form a company.

Candles 1*d.* per lb.

Also for-asmoch as afore this tyme at a lete holden at Couentre the Munday next after the Inuencion of the Holy Crosse [21 Ed. IV.] afore Ric. Colyns, then Miere of this Cite[1] etc., ther was diuerse & mony good ordynaunces made for reformacion of officers of the Cite as well for seriauntes as oder officers as the Jayler for the tyme beyng and what they shuld take for doyng ther offices, as more pleyntly (*sic*) apperith by the same lete. Howbeit as touchyng the Jaylers office it is not declarid certayn in euery thyng, what he shuld take for his ffee, wherfore mony of the kynges leage peple fynde them-self greuyd theryn. Wherfore it is enactid at this present letee (*sic*) that all such actes þat were made at the seid lete or eny lete heretofore for þe comen wele of this Citee þat they be stedfastly holden fromhensforth & kept and the breker of them to be punysshed accordyng to þer [2]demerites. And þat no Jayler fromhensforth take for his ffee of euery prisoner arestid by processe of the kynges Court here or from a-bove[3] but v d., that is to sey iiij d. for hym-self & a peny his vnder-keper. And if the mater wherfore eny prisoner is arestid be vndur the some of xld. then the Jayler nor his seriaunt to take no thyng for þer

May 7, 1481.

"Jaylers' fee

iij v d. upon Arest,

[1] The leet records for that year are not given.
[2] "dere" deleted. [3] A higher court.

fee. And if it fortune eny prisoner hereaftur to be commytted to the Jailer for treson, murdre, or felony then the Jayler to take of euery such prisoner when he is delyuered his ffee above-rehersid, and ouer & aboue þat ij d. for his Irons & no more; & if he take more & [1] þat duly prosid [2] to lose at the first faute xl d., and at the secunde to lese his office without eny favour. Also he shall take no double ffee of no prisoner except it be for grete & vrgent causes opynly knowen. Also *per* hath be compleyntes made apon the Jayler that he hath takyn awey from the prisoners such money as hath byn gyffen to them in almys & conuertid it to his owne use. Wherfore it is enactid (etc.) that if it can be proved that if he or eny other Jayler after hym at eny tyme herafter doo soo that incontynent apon the prove therof the seid Jayler to forfeit it (*sic*) office without eny redempcion.

for fellony or misdemenor v d., and 2*d.* for his Irons."

"The gaoler."

"Jaylers

Also it hath be compleyned apon þe jailer þat where þe seriauntes haue arestid diuerse & mony, some for det & som for transgressions & delyuered them to þe Jayler safly to kepe till the next court day; at which day þe prisoner is, & hath be, let goo; and so the party not onswerid as they shuld be by the lawe to þe grete hurt & hyndraunce of þe pleyntyfs; wherfore it is enactid at this lete þat if the seid Jayler, or eny oþer heraftur, haue not his prisoner redy at þe day of retorn of þe warent to answere the party pleyntyf that the seid Jayler and euery Jayler heraftur shall forfete for euery prisoner so departid xl d. for a mercyment, and þe secunde defaute vj s. viij d., and so euery court day doublid tyll he bryng hym in.

forfeit for estrayes."

"For the gaoler."

Also it is enactyd at this lete if it fortune eny Craftesman heraftur to be commytted to warde & in þe kepyng of the jayler for felony, transgression, det or suerty of the p[e]ace or oþer-wise, and may haue werke wherby he myght gete his lyuyng, that þe Jayler shall suffre hym or them to worch in þe day-tyme & such money as they gete to haue it them-self and the jayler for his suffraunce to haue of euery xij d. a peny & no more, apon peyn of euery defaute prouyd to forfet xij d.[4]

"The gaoler." [3]
"Poor prisoners to be set to worke by the Jayler."

[1] and = than. [2] = proceed. [3] In another hand and ink.
[4] "Plus in dorso" (more at the back) follows.

"For the gaoler."

[1][Enacted] that no Jayler hereaftur shall take no ffee of no man, onlees he be commyttid to his warde, [or 40 d. fine at every default.]

Cappers forbidden to flock caps.

[Ordained] that no capper in the Citee ffromhensforth flok[2] eny cappe and soo vtter it, apon the peyn to forfeit per cappes so flockyd, and the seid cappes brent, and ouer that for euery cappe so founde fauty & brent to forfeit iiij d., that is to sey, j d. to the Shirrifs, a peny to the Sercher, and ij d. to the Comen boxe. And all such cappes that be nowe fflockid to sell noen of them but mende theym ageyn within vj dayes after this lete, vnder the peyn afore rehersyd; and that ther be chosen & sworen ij serchers therfore to serch the defautes & truly to present them etc.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Oct. 2.

[V. f. p. held on Tuesday after Michaelmas, 7 Hen. VIII.]

Joh. Hardwen, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Merler, Joh. Saunders, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Tho. Grove, Nic. Burwey, Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Heynes, Hum. Grene, Hen. Perkyns, Tho fforth, Tho. Waren, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Turner, Joh. Bonde, Tho. Smyth, Will. Wykam, Tho. Lee, Ric. Westley.

Sheriffs.

[Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall.]

"Masters off Companies to show their orders to the mayor vpon demand,

[Enacted] that euery craft and occupacion of this Citee that is a ffeliship of them-self that they bryng in theire bokes of theire occupacion at such tyme as Maister Meyre commaundethe them, and such caues & rules as be onresonable to be reformyd by Maister Meire & his brethern, and euery occupacion to abide the same ordre, apon peyn to forfeit euery craft a C s. for brekyng of the same etc. And if eny craft or occupacion within the Cite make eny ordynaunce, Caue, or bylawe amonges them-self in per occupacion or craft fromhensforth except Maister [Meyre] of the Cite for the tyme beyng & his brethern be made priuey therto and registrid in the Meyres boke; and they to see that the said ordynaunce, caue or bylawe stonde

& orders voyd iff not Asented vnto by [the] mayor & his brethern."

[1] leaf 315, back.

[2] = to thicken prepared cloth by shaking powdered wool or cloth shearings over the same. *N. E. D.* s.v. Flock sb. and vb.

with the co*m*en weel of the Citee; and they so admyt hit or els to be voide, vnder the payn of eu*e*ry such caue or bylawe otherwise occupied to forfeit for eu*e*ry moneth so occupyyng xx s., the on half to the Co*m*en box and the other half at the plesure of M*aister* Meyre & his brethern. And all such imposici*o*ns & peynes as han be made aforetyme amonge*s* eny craft contr*a*rie to good consciens and to the wele of the Citee be from hensforth voide & of noon effect.[1]

The chandlers

Also that no Taloughchaundeler w*ith*in the Citee or þe suburbys of the same sell eny candyll fromhensforth a-bove a peny a pounde, apon peyn of eu*e*ry pounde solde a-bove that prise to forfeit xij d.; and that they sell no candyll in groce out of the Citee at a tyme above a dose*n* pounde, [or 20s. fine each time.] And that they see the Citee well & sufficiently se*r*uyd, vnder the peyn of the hool body of the craft of a C s., the on half to the Co*m*en boxe, and the other half at the pleasure of M*aister* Meire and his brethern.

to serve the city sufficiently or pay 100*s*. fine.

"No men shall forstall eny fishe."

[Ordained] at this letee (*sic*) that no inh*ab*itaunt w*ith*in the Citee lye by the wey by-twene this and the se-syde and by se-fysh comyng to the Citee, nor by it when it is comen into the Citee, but suffer the brynger therof & theire depute*s* to sell it. And the seid fysshers panyers to be pichid first in the m*ar*ket accordyng to the olde auncyent custome & not to be openyd ne set a-sale tyll M*aister* Meyre haue seen it as well oysters, musculs, as oder see ffysh, except they come ou*er* evun, apon the peyn of eu*e*ry defaute of them that receyveth such ffysh into theire houses to forfeit for eu*e*ry seme[2] vj s. viij d., and for eu*e*ry seme that eny inhabitaunt lyeth by the wey & byeth it, or bieth it w*ith*in the Citee, to forfeit for eu*e*ry seme x s., xl d. to the Shirrefs & vj s. viij d. to the Co*m*en boxe; and that no inh*ab*itaunt w*ith*in the Citee make no contract nor bargeyn to by eny ffresh samon vnto tyme it be brought into the m*ar*ket nor then nodyr tyll M*aister* Meyre have seen it, and set the p*r*ise therof, apon peyn of imp*r*isonment & to make a fyne at þe Meyres co*m*maundment, and þ*at* no saltffyshmen nor þ*er* wyfe*s*

"ffish to be viewed by the mayor before it be sold."

[1] See Introduction. [2] "defaulte" deleted. Seme = load.

medle with no sefysh, heryng, oysters nor musculs, apon the peyn afore-rehersed.

JOH. HUMFREY, MAYOR, 1516.

[1]¶ [Election of officers.] "Ciuitas Couentrie." Jan. 25. Jury.

Tho. Grove, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Saunders, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Tho. Waren, Nic. Heynes, Humf. Grene, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. fforde, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Turner, Joh. Bonde, Tho. Smyth, Will. Wykam, Tho. Warde, Will. Banwell, Will. Brygges, Tho. Hyll.

[m. Joh. Humfrey; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Joh. Hyll, Draper, Ric. Herres, grasyer; w. Tho. Toty, Tho. Spenser; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Ric. ffereby. Officers.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

[2]¶ [V. f. p. held before Joh. Humfrey, m., Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, b., on Tuesday after S. Ambrose' day, 7 Hen. VIII.] "Ciuitas Couentrie." Apr. 8.

Tho. Grove, Joh. Haddon, Will. Bysford [Pysford], Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Joh. Saunders, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Tho. Waren, Nic. Burwey, Nic. Heynes, Hum. Grene, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Turner, Joh. Bonde, Tho. Smyth, Will. Wykam, Joh. Hyll, draper, Ric. Harres, Joh. Eburne, Tho. Kelyngworth, Will. Towres. Jury.

[3][Ordained] that all the inhabitauntes of this Citee be obedyent to the Meyre for the tyme beyng, and also if eny decree or good ordynaunce or prouysicion[5] be made & assentyd by the Meyre & counsell of the Citee, or by the moost parte of them, in theire counsell-howse or chambre for the pollitique contynuaunce of good ordynaunces & rulys wythyn the Citee, that euery inhabitaunt, of what condicion or degree so-euer he be of, duly obey, obserue & kepe the same decree, ordynaunce, & prouysion, appon the Orders of leet. [4]"Euery inhabitaunt shall obey the ordinaunces of the leetes, vpon paine as followeth."[4]

[1] leaf 316.
[2] leaf 316, back. Possibly a different scribe, though of similar type.
[3] The offender is John Strong, see p. 649.
[4–4] Different hands. [5] *sic.* Read "provision."

A late mayor's punishment;

peyn hereafter ensuyng:—that is to sey, if he haue be Meyre that from thensforth he be exempt & vtterly abiect from the Counsell of the Citee & the Company of theym in all theire comen processions, ffestes, and all other assembles & from weryng of his cloke or skerlet in theire companyes and further to make ffyne & soeffre enprisonment by discrecion of the Meire & the counsell or the more part of theym. And if he hath byn Shirreff then to be obiect (*sic*) & exempt from werryng skarrelet amonges his company in all Comen assembles, ffestes & processions, and ferther to be punysshed by ffyne & imprisonment as a-bove is rehersid. And if he bere neuer the office of Shirref then he to lese the ffredom & liberte of this Citee, and ouer that to be punyshed by ffyne & inprisonment as above is rehersid. Also it is ordeigened (etc.) that if ther be eny maner of persone or persons of the Citee that woll fauoure or comfort eny such mysdoers in theire obstinacie or frowarde mynde that they shal-be punyshed in maner as the odur[1] bee.

a late sheriff's;

the punishment of those of lower degree.

"Nota." Disobedience to this, £10 fine.

[Enacted] that if eny man woll presume to were his lyuere or doo contrarie to this ordynaunce that he shall leese & forfett at euery defawte xli. the on half to the crosse, the oder to the Comen boxe.

The river.

[Enacted] that all good actes & ordynaunces afore this tyme made for the comen wele of the Citee be fromhensforth duly & truly put in execucion, and that the act that was made the ixth yere of kyng E. the iiijth for the comen ryuer of Shirburn be put in execucion etc.[2]

1469.

No wool to be brought into the city on a Friday.

[Enacted] that no maner of persone bryng in to the Citee apon the ffryday eny wooll, woode or hurdels, apon the peyn of euery lode so brought to forfet xij d., accordyng to an act peruppon made the ix yere of E. iiij^{ti} at Ester court,[3] and this to be cryed thre ffrydayes and then to stonde in effect.

Tallow-chandlers not to sell tallow by the dozen.

[Enacted] that no bocher of the Citee sell eny taloo out of the Citee to eny man of the countray [or 40d. each time to the common box]; nor no Talough chaundler sell no candyll out of the Towne by the dosen, but only by the pounde, [or 20s. each time to the common box.]

[1] MS. adur. [2] *v.* p. 347. [3] See p. 339.

Also the act for bying of hides on the Satirday and no odur[1] day is affermyd that was made the x^th^ yere of king Henry the vij^th^.[1] — Hides.

[Enacted] that such decree as Maister Meire & his brethern made & toke with Maister Strong for such money as he was awarded to pay to the Citee, that is to sey x li. xij s. vjd., that he to bryng it to Maister Meyre or a sufficient gage therfore by the ffest of seynt George next comyng or els to be in the daunger of the above writon act & decre, & to ran in the penalte therof; and further to be punysshed by the [2]discrecion of Maister Meyre & his brethern or the more part of them; and if he bryng in a Gage and no money then withyn a moneth next after that the gage to be sold by the aduyse of Maister Meire & his brethern, and the ouer-pluys therof to be delyuered to the seid Joh. Strong. — Master Strong's contumacy and fine. Apr. 23.

Mem. that this act made for Maister Strong is performed on his part and he amytted of the Counsell as he was a-fore; and thus agrement was fully concludid & made afore Maister Waren, Mayre, & his brethern, the Tuysday next after the ffest of seynt Hillare [11 Hen. VIII.] as apperithe more pleynly in the Counsell boke, to the wych boke the seid Maister Strong hath set to his honde. — Master Strong re-admitted. Jan. 17, 1520.

[3][V. f. p. held on Thursday after Michaelmas, 8 Hen. VIII.] — "Cluitas Couentrie." Oct. 2.

Tho. Grove, Rob. Grene, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Joh. Clerk, Tho. Waren, Hen. Rogers, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Joh. Bonde, Tho. Smyth, Will. Wykam, Tho. Whyte, Ric. Burwey, Joh. Hyll, draper, Tho. Dode, Will. Towres.] — Jury.

[Jul. Nethyrmyll, Draper, Tho. Hyll, Draper.] — Sheriffs.

[Enacted] that euery alderman in his warde shall present iiij or vj persons of the most honest persons of per warde that hath boren no office to be constabuls for the yere and bryng in ther byll of there namys to Maister Meyre for the tyme beyng & to his brethern within viij dayes next after the lete holden after Michelmasse yerely, — "For election of constables."

[1] See pp. 557–8, 665–6. [2] leaf 317. [3] leaf 317, back.

and then *Maister* Meyre & his brethern to chewse out of eu*e*ry warde as money of them as they thynk conuenyent for the warde to be constabuls *þer*, and this to contynue for eu*er* etc.

Butchers and tallow;

[Ordained] that no bocher of the Citee sell eny talough w*ith*in the Citee by-twene this & the next lete a-bove ij s. ij d. þe stone and that they sell noon out of the Citee, apon the peyn of euery defaulte xx s., [half to the sheriffs and half to the common box]. And that no chaundeler sell candyll above peny ferthyng a pounde, and that it be good stuf, by-twene thus and the next lete; and that they sell noen out of the Citee by hool-sale to them that woll sell them ayen w*ith*out license of *Maister* Meyre for the tyme beyng, apon the peyn afore rehersid, wherof half to the co*m*en box & half to the Shirrefs; also that they sell to the pore peple halpenyworth and penworth after the pounde that they excede not in prise aboue peny q*uadrans* a lib.

chandlers and candles, 1½*d.* per lb.

"Swynstiez & hogg*es* kepyng."

[Ordained] that the olde ordyna*un*ces for styes and kepyng of hogg*es* be renuyd & kept accordyng to the olde act, & lyke peyn as is afore made to be hadde and taken, and if the Shirrefs se not execuc*i*on hadde in eu*e*ry defaute w*ith*in viij dayes next aft*er* the same faute to forfeit for eu*e*ry defaute such summes of money as they shuld haue *þer*for, and the co*m*en *seri*aunt to leuy such ffyne as the Shirrefs shuld haue hadde if they hadde executid *þer* office, and it to goo to the Co*m*en box etc.

The fines to be levied on neglectful sheriffs.

Attorney.

[Baldwin Porter "to occupy the hoole office of the attorneyship of the city" henceforth, and to have the whole fee.]

HEN. ROGERS, MAYOR, 1517.

"Ciuitas Couentrie."

Jan. 25.

[[1] Election of officers.]

Joh. Clerk, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Tho. Grove, Tho. Smyth, Nic. Heynes, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. Astlyn, Hugo Dawes, Tho. Turnour, Joh. Bonde, Tho. Rowley, Will. Wykam, Will. Banwell, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hyll, Ric. Harres.

[1] leaf 319.

[m. Hen. Rogers; rec. Rad. Swyllyngton; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Joh. Locok, weuer, Step. Lynsey, Baker; w. Tho. Both, mercer, Tho. Brewer, mercer; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Ric. ffereby.] Officers.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

[1][V. f. p. held before Hen. Rogers, m., Jul. Nethyrmyll, Tho. Hyll, b., on Tuesday after S. Mark's day, 9 Hen. VIII.] "Ciuitas Couentrie." Apr. 28.

Joh. Clerk, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Tho. Grove, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Smyth, Nic. Burwey, Tho. Waren, Nic. Heynes, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Will. Wykam, Tho. Whyte, Ric. Burwey, Hen. Wall, Joh. Locok. Jury.

[Ordained] that no bocher, inhabitant within the Citee, sell no maner of taloo out of the Citee but only to the Chaundelers of the Citee, and the inhabitantes of the same [or 20s. fine, half to the sheriffs, half to the common box]. Also that no chaundeler inhabitant within the Citee sell eny candyll out of the Citee by desons[2] or half desons to sech as shall sell them a-yeyn, apone the peyn afore-seyd. "Bochers" only to sell tallow to chaundlers.

[Ordained] that no ffyshmonger, baker, sherman nor noon oder person except he be a chaundeler make eny candyll to sale but only for his owne howse, [or 20s. fine, half to the sheriffs, half to the common box.]

[Ordained] that all such ffyshmongers as sellith salt ffysh shall take yn no panyers of see ffsyh into the howses [or 6s. 8d. fine] but suffre the[3] hit accordyng to the auncient custome to be set at the crosse, and that they by no ffresh coddes to salt to thentent to sell them ayeyn afore on of the Clok, so that the Citee may be ffirst serued, apon the same peyn. And that all such see-ffysh as cometh ouer evun that it be set in the market by vij of the clok, and that they voide per bordes & make sale perof by ij of the clok, apon the fforfeture of the same ffysh that "Fisshe-mongers" to set out their boards by the Cross.

[1] leaf 319, back.
[2] Difficult to distinguish between this scribe's "e" and his "o"; "desons" might be "dosens."
[3] redundant.

is then left onsold. Also that no woman nor oder person cut eny see-ffysh þat cometh to the market but such as be assigned by maister Meyre & his brethern, apon peyn of euery defaute vj s. viij d.; and that no cutter of seeffysh by no panyer of sseffysh to his own vse to sell a-geyn, apon peyn of euery defaute vj s. viij d., half to the Shirefs & half to the comen boxe.[1]

"Vagabonds and beggars."

Also it is ordeyned at this lete that euery alderman of the Citee within his warde make due serch for vacabundes & lusty beggers and cause them to voyde out of ther warde within a day & a nyght after proclamacion made, apon peyn of inprisonment accordyng to the statute theruppon made.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Oct. 13.

[[2] V. f. p. held on the Translation of S. Edward, 9 Hen. VIII.]

Jury of 25.

Joh. Clerk, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Haddon, Will Pysford, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Tho. Grove, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Smyth, Nic. Burwey, Tho. Waren, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wykam, Tho. White, Ric. Burwey, Hen. Wall, Will. Banwell, Joh. Locok.

Sheriffs.

[Ric. Herynge, Mercer, Rog. Walles.]

"For vacahundes,[3] pauing streets, swynsties, sweeping streets,

[Ordained] that euery alderman in his warde see that ther be due correcion made accordyng to the lawe & the auncient ordynnaunces of leetes for the punyshment of myghty beggers, of vacabundes, as well wemen as men, suspect alhowses & blynde ynnes, clensyng of the stretes & swepyng of the stretes in-to the giter, but see it be boron a-wey. Also that þer be no swynstyes occupied within the walles of the Citee, nor draughtes apon the comen dykes of the Citee that longeth to the conveyance of the water of the Citee; also to see the pawmentes well pavid; also to suffre no onlawfull games to be vsid; also to se the excersysyng of shotyng in long bowes; also to se þer be no wodyn chymneyes nor howses thakkyd with brome or strawe; and to see the Comen ryuer be well kept

draughtes,

Chymneys, & Thaked housez, wooden Chimneys."

[1] See above, p. 635. [2] leaf 320, back.
[3] Some of the gloss is in the writing of one scribe and some in that of another.

accordyng to the auncientes ordynaunces þeruppon made; and also that they execute all oder good ordynaunces made for the welth of the Citee within þer warde, euery alderman apon the peyn so offendyng to pay for euery defaute presentid at eny sessions or lete vj s. viij d. to the comen boxe without eny ffauour.

[Ordained] that Ric. Burwey and all other hauyng draughtes, swynstyes, or eny oder anyaunce to the preiudice of the Redde-dych that they reforme them & pull them downe by-twene this and the ffest of seynt Martyn next comyng [or 6s. 8d. fine each time.] Ric. Burwey to do away with his nuisances.

[Ordained] that from hensforth the bokes of ij leetes euer next afore shall remayn in the counsell howse opynly on the shekyr,[1] that they may be seen euery Wennysday by the counsell of the Citee to see what is kept & what is brokyn & see it reformyd, and that they determyn those maters afore they entre into eny oþer. "þe booke of actes to be open." "Leetes."

[Ordained][2] that the ffeliship of rough-masons & dawbers ffromhensforth be no ffeliship nor craft of them-self, but only comen laborers as they were afore, and to take such wages as is lymyte them by the statutes þeruppon made, & no more, apon peyn of inprisonment; also that the make noon assemble, conuenticle or caue amonges them-self, apon the same peyn etc.[3] Dawbers and rough masons not to form a fellowship.

NIC. BURWEY, MAYOR, 1518.

[[4] Election of officers.]

Joh. Humfrey, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Haddon, Will. Pysforde, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Tho. Grove, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Bonde, Nic. Haynes, Hen. Perkins, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Rowley, Will. Wickam, Hen. Wall, Jul. Nethermyll, Joh. Locok, Step. Lynsey, Tho. Warde, Will. Banwell. "Ciuitas Couentrie." Jan. 25. Electors.

[m. Nic. Burwey; rec. Rad. Swyllyngton; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Rob. Welsch, Draper, Rog. Dawber; w. Tho. Wilmer, Tho. Napton; mace, Hen. Walker; crier, Ric. ffyreby.] Officers.

[1] A counting board. [2] "at this letee" (*sic*) follows.
[3] See Introduction. [4] leaf 321, back. Scribe H.

EASTER LEET.

"Civitas Couentrie." Apr. 20.

[1][V. f. p. held before Nic. Burwey, m., Ric. Herryng, Rog. Walles, b., on Tuesday before S. George's day, 9 Hen. VIII.]

Rob. a Grene, Joh. Haddon, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Marler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Tho. Grove, Joh. Bonde, Tho. Waren, Nic. Heynes, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Will. Wikam, Tho. White, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Tho. Hill, Jul. Nethermyll, Rob. Walshe, Rog. Dawber, Will. Banwell.

Orders of leet.

[2][Enacted] that no man nor men within this Cite, of what occupacion so euer he be of, swere or cause to be sworne vpon a boke eny maner of person for eny poynt in ther occupacion, in peyn to forfet C s. to be payd to the Comen boxe forth-with withouten eny pardon. [3]And they[3] schall punysshe Misdoers in their Occupacions by penaltes resonable; and if ther be eny man in any ffelowschip or craft that brekyth & wolle not obey & kepe such ordynaunces as hath ben made resonable for the good ordre & welth of the Craft, let hym pay such penaltes as hath ben therfor ordeyned of Olde tymes. And if he denye & woll not pay his penaltes accordyng to the ordynaunces to suffre hym the furst tyme, and then within iij or iiij dayes let the Maister aske hit of hym agayn with Record with hym; and if he deny it eftsones & wolde not pay it, lete the master of the Craft with iij or iiij of the honest men of[3] the Craft come to Master Meire & schow vnto hym the delyng of that person; and then Master Meire with sum of the Justices of the pease to sende for hym forthwyth & Comm[an]de hym to pay doble penaltes, if it be xij d. to pay ij s., and all other penaltes [in] like Maner [3]forth-with; or els to Comyt hym to warde ther to remayn till he haue paid the doble penalte, the on half ,[4] & the other half to the Craft; and also to desire the master to be good master to hym for that yere beyng, and after to be his good louer.

"No person to be sworne by masters off Crafts."

Offenders refusing to pay the accustomed fines

ordered by the mayor to pay double.

And also that all such penaltes taken of eny man for

[1] leaf 322. [2] See p. 302. [3—3] Deletions.
[4] Some omission here.

brekyng of eny poynt of the ordenaunce of his occupacion, if it be aboue the price of a li. of waxe, the on half to be vpleyd to the comen boxe.

Part of a fine to go to the box.

Mem. that these ffynes ffolowyng to be for euery Occupacion to be had to the plesure of God after the abilite of the people that now ben, & no forther, to [? so] the Cite be encreased to more welthynes then it is now, hit is ordeyned (etc.) that euery prentyce of Mercers & Drapers Craftes that schal-be bounde[1] to the seid occupacions his ffrendes to pay for hym at the sealyng of his Indentures before some of the Mercers vj s. viij d. & non other ffyne, but to sue his prenteshode truly.

Mercers' apprentices

to pay 6*s.* 8*d.* at the sealing of the indentures.

Also al other prentes of other Occupacion to pay at his settyng vp & openyng of his shoope vj s. viij d., and non other ffynes, but to pay to the Craft penaltes for mysdoyng contrary to the good ordenaunces of his Craft, and also ther quarterage & other thynges as afore-tymes hath ben vsed.

Others 6*s.* 8*d.* at setting up shop.

Also if eny person dwellyng within this Cite hath a good occupacion to lyve by & woll leve it & occupie with a-nother occupacion, then he to agre with the seid Occupacion that he wold be with-all.

"No medling with other trades then the trades they are made free vnto."

Also if ther be eny Craftesmen in the Countrey that hath not been prentise in this Cite that will com & enhabet here to Com & welcom & accordyng to the libertees of this Cite to dwell here well & honestly a hoole yere, & then to pay towardes the Charges of the seid Craft xs. in this maner, that is to sey vs. at the full ende of that yere, & other vs. within the next yere, and after that to pay after the good ordenaunce of the seid Craft as other men of the same Craft after his abbilite do pay, and non other ffyne etc.

"Prentisez." Country settlers to pay 10*s.*

[2] Also for the olde ffynes that ben paid, if he have ben prentise in the towne & hath payd all his ffynes, vj s. viij d. or more, to sese & pay no more; & if he have not payd to the somme of vj s. viij d. to pay out to that some & no more.

Only 6*s.* 8*d.* required from apprentices;

And if he haue not ben prentise in the Cite & haue payd to the some of x s. to sese & pay no more; & if he

and 10*s.* from non-apprentices.

[1] The mark over "n" is like au. [2] leaf 322, back.

haue not paid to the seid some of x s. to pay it out & no more, but to pay the penalte, if he deserue therto.

Repayment of security money ordered.

And if eny master of eny Craft haue Couenaunted & Charged hymself for eny man by the will of the partie for eny some of money, Then the seyd partie to pay the duyte[1] to the seid Maister, for he hath paed it for hym, and hit is due dett etc.

"No cayue to be maid without thassent of Master Meire."

["Ordened"] that no Jurnamen of what occupacion or Craft so-euer he be of within the Cite make or use amonge them-self eny Cayue or bylawe or assemblez or metynges at eny place by ther somner without licens of Master Meire & the Master of his occupacion, vpon peyne of xx s. for the first fawte, & for the seconde his bodie to prison ther to remayne to he wol-be justified by the Master of his occupacion & vj honest persones of that occupacion; & to bryng in ther booke when they be comaunded by Master Maire, the forfeiture to be paed, the oon half to the Comen boxe, & the other half to thoccupacion that they be of.

"Against bowling by poore Craftsmen."

Also for a good & a Resonable consideracion it is enacted at this present lete that no Bowlyng be vsed at seynt Annys by the Charter house before vj of the Clok in the Mornyng nor after vj of the Clok in the Evenyng, but if they be honest persones that will make litell noyse, in the payne of hym that kepeth the place xij d. at euery defaute. Also that he suffre not pore Craftes-men to vse bowlyng ther dayly and wekely, levyng ther besynes at home that they shuld lyve by, in the payne to pay for euery persone so daily vsyng vj d., the oon half to hym that presenteth the trueth, & the other half to the Comen boxe.

"Cloth makyng."

[2]AN ORDER FOR THE TRUE MAKINGE OF CLOTHE.[2]

In order to recover prosperity an inspection of cloth by 2 weavers and 2 walkers,

Hit is to be had in mynde that for a trueth of Cloth-makyng to be had in this Cite as foloeth, if it myght be folowed & the execucion of the same to be don schortly, Or els the Cite wol-be so fer past that it wol-be past remedie to be recouered to eny welth or prosperite—hit is thought hit were good to haue ij weuers & ij walkers

[1] = debt. [2–2] In another hand.

sworn to make true serche of the weuers doyng & also of the walkers, & to present the trueth: and also to be chosen vj Drapers to be Maisters & ouerseers of the doyng of the serchers, That if some of them cannot a-lesour to be at the serchyng at the dayes of the serchers yet some of these vj Maisters schall euer be ther; and by-cause it were to great a besynes for the serchers to go to euery mannes howse, hit is enacted (etc.) to haue a howse of the gilde or of some other mannes nyghe the Drapery doore to be ordeyned[1] Well with perches to drawe ouer the Clothes when they be thykked, and also weightes & ballaunce to wey the Cloth. And when it cometh frome the walkers, The walkers to bryng it to the serchyng house, & to serche it & to se it ouer a perche; and if it be good Cloth, as it owght to be, in brede & lengh, that the Cite may haue a preise by hit & no sklaunder, then to sett vpon hit the Olyvaunt[2] in lede, and of the Bak of the seall the lengh of the Cloth, by the which men schall perceyve & see it is true Couentre Cloth: ffor of suertie ther is in London & other places that sell false & vntrewe made Cloth, & name hit Couentre Cloth, the which is a gret[er] slaunder to the Cite than hit deserueth by a gret partie. And if ther be eny man that hath eny Cloth brought to the serchyng house, what degre so euer he be of, if it be not able for the worship of the Cite to be let passe, let hym pay for the serche, & lett hym do his best with hit, but set not the Olyvaunt vpon it.

overlooked by 6 drapers,

is enjoined.

A house is to be provided;

and good cloth to bear

the seal with the city arms upon it,

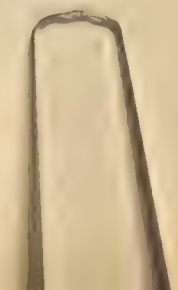
to guard against ill-made material and

the slander that it brings to the city.

& this serche to be made after this fourme, [3]That is to sey ij dayes in the weke, Tewesday & Saturday, and if the serchers be there from viij of the Clok to a xj, and frome on to iiij of the Clok, and a Sealer to be ordeyned & sworne to stryke[4] the Cloth & seale hit & wrete[5] hit & fynde leed & to haue a peny for his labor; and the sealles to be put in a Cofre with ij keys, the Maister of the vj Drapers to haue the on & the serrchers the other; and for

The searchers are to be present on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 8 till 11 (a.m.) and from 1 till 4 (p.m.),

[1] ordain = to equip.
[2] The elephant and castle are the city arms. [3] leaf 323.
[4] The early meaning of this word was "to pass one's hand, or something flat over a surface to smooth it out." Practically the sense here seems to be = measure (Dr. Bradley).
[5] = ? write, *i. e.* the length of the cloth to be put on the seal.



and take 1*d.* for every cloth they examine.

the serche of euery cloth to the serchers to haue j d., and it is to be thought euery good man schal-be gladde of that payment.

The mayor and 2 others

And for the spynners[1] an ordinaunce to be hadde after this Manner: Maister Meyre to do so moch to take the labour vpon hym with ij of the vj Maysters on day & ij or iij another day, and to go & se euery mannes weight that vseth cloth-making, and that they be laufull of such weight as can be thought resonable for the pore folkes to lyue bye, & to lett non be occupied but it be sealed with an Olyvaunt in payn of xij d.; and if eny person denye of ffrowardnes & will not obey to this ordenaunce let not his wilfull Mynde be suffred, and also let not the towne seale[2] till he or sche be content to the ordenaunce therof made; and also to gyue the pore Spynners redy money, and if they will haue cloth or eny other Chaffur let theym when they haue their money bye hit & paye for hit; and when eny spynner is founde with a fawte, other lakyng of ther weyte or in false vsyng of their warke, so that the Clothmaker do perceyue verely it is don wilfully, and if it be such a fawte that it is worthy to be ponysshed openly, then bryng her & her warke to the alderman of the warde, & he to call to hym some of the oversears,[3] and to se the fawtes & to lett the person to be openly ponysshed, that all other may take ensample accordyng to her deseruyng. And these bygge beggers, that wil-not worke well to gete ther levyng, but lye in the feldes & breke hedges & stele mennys fruyte in somour, let theym be banysshed the town, Or els ponyssh theym so without fauour that they schal-be wery to byde therin.[4]

to examine the cloth-makers' weights, and seal them.

Clothmakers are commanded to pay spinners in ready money and not by truck wages.

The alderman of the ward

to punish a spinner for any serious fault.

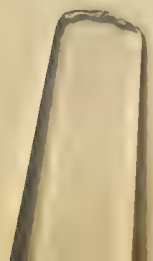
Big beggars to be expelled

from the city.

Also Memorandum to wey the warke at the spynners howses in wole or yorn & this thynges performed & ffolowed:—Ther is a man[5] nyghe vnto this Cite that wole delyuer amonges pore Clothmakers the next Shear tyme ij C stone of goode woole as it cost, the Costes payd, & iiij C s. with it in redy money for bycause the spynners & the weuers schall haue redy money for their true labour,

Haddon's loan;

200 stone of wool and 400*s.* (£20) to be divided



[1] See above p. 243. [2] An omission. [3] Who are these?
[4] On vagabonds see Leonard, *Poor Relief*, and above *passim*.
[5] May be Joh. Haddon, see *Coventry Charities* (1733), p. 1.

& to gyue theym as they may lyue, & to be delyuered to x men, to euery man xx^ti^ stone & xl s. in redy money to pay for the spynnyng & the weuyng. And they to pay hym ayen at iij dayes, that is to sey, at Alhallowetyde on parte, & at Candelmas or in Lent the second, & at Couentre ffeyre[1] the iij^rd^ parte, so that he may haue all his money to bye newe wole. And if they can not sell their cloth to lyue by hit, he wole sometymes take hit of them for payment; so that they schall not labour to lese, and by Godes grace some other good men will do the same, so that the Cite schal-be better occupied by the love of Jhesus, Amen.

among ten clothmakers, who are to repay him at certain seasons either in money or in unsaleable cloth.

Provided alwey that no officer, Constable nor other arest no cloth borne toward the serchyng house nor from the serchyng howse to the owners house in payn of a C s. to the comein boxe.

Cloth not to be seized as distress when it is being borne to the searching-house.

[Enacted] for truth of Clothmakyng that no man nor woman within this Cite put no cloth to ony walker to full but if he will burle[2] it & wranghalf[3] it within the Cite in peyn of vj s. viij d. to the comen boxe, ffor this entent folowyng, that is to sey, that the sherchers may se that hytt be well byrled & clenne & well & truly wranghalft[3] and the serchars to se the same Cloth and to putt in ther burlyng marke.

Cloth to be fulled within the city.

[4]And also that the serchers may se the cloth when it is in byrlyng whether ther be eny fawte in the weuers doyng or not, and if the walker do not sende for the serchers to se whiles it is in byrlyng, if ther be eny fawte in the cloth when hit cometh to the serchyng howse to be leyd to the walkers Charge, but if the cloth be well byrled, & well thyked, & kyndely handeled, that it be not let kole with takyng out of the myll or hit be thoroly thykked, nor that it be not walked with Cappes, nor no ffloxe[5] drawen out with sharpe handylles nor cardes, then the walker to haue for his trewe labour for a lo price cloth xl d., & for a myddle Cloth iiij s., & for a fyne cloth v s., & other verrye fyne clothes as the owner & he can agree.

Cloth to be viewed by the searchers when it is being dressed,

and not let to cool by taking out of the mill before it is thoroughly thicked.

Fullers' charges.

[1] Corpus Christi. [2] = to dress cloth by removing knots.
[3] See above, p. 640.
[4] leaf 323, back. "Clothe making" in a later scribe's hand heads the page. [5] Tufts of wool.

Weavers' charges; for a cloth of 8 or 9 hundred 4*s.*, 9 and 10 hundred 4*s.* 6*d.*

Also that no weu*er* ley no cloth no longer then he may make hit good cloth of good breed in the peyn of vj s. viij d., and to dryve in all the wole that he hath to the seid cloth; and the weuer doyng his warke truly to haue for a cloth weuyng if it go betwene viij or ix C.[1], iiij s. in money, & if it go betwene ix & x C., iiij s. vj d., and if it go betwene x & a xj C., v s., & fferther aft*er* the hundred*es* as the owner & he can agre.

Long thrums.

Also that no weu*er* make no throms of any pese of cloth aboue the lengh of a qu*arter* besyde the knot, in peyn to pay for eu*ery* defaute xl d., xij d. to eny man that fyndeth it, & p*re*senteth it to M*aister* Maire, & ij s. iiij d. to the comen boxe.

Flocks not to be drawn with cards.

Also that ony walker that is founde with eny ffloxe draen of Clothes with card*es* or scharpe handill*es* for eu*ery* li. defauted so founde to pay xl d., except it poffe[2] of the myll, xx d. to eny man that fyndeth, & xx d. to the comen boxe.

"The mayor to search ffullers houses ffor fflocks and thrums."

Also that ther be ij s*er*chers chosen by M*aister* Mayre & the Councell, & to haue auctorite gyuen theym by this lete to go in-to eny weu*er* or walkers house as oft as they lyst to make labo*ur* to s*er*che for throms & ffloxe, & they to haue their p*ar*t of the penalte, as afore is reh*er*sed, for so moch as they ffynde.

For preventing such search 3*s.* 4*d.*

And what man that lettyth theym to come in-to their howsez to se & make s*er*che for the seid Throms or floxe they to pay at eu*ery* faute xl d. to the comen boxe without ony p*ar*don.

No yarn to be sold except by its original owner.

And that no Capper nor hatmaker nor no other p*er*son by no colored yarne of no p*er*son but if he knowe verely hit is ther owne, & that wole be knowen vppon the price*s*, vpon the peyn of eu*ery* defaute xl d., xij d. to hym that fyndeth it & p*re*senteth hit, and the rest to the comen boxe.

Drawing out of kerseys and broad cloth

Also ther is an-nother thyng to take hede to & to be ponysshed, ffor hit is open ffalshed, ffor ther is nether drede of God nor shame of the worlde,[3] that is the Draw-

[1] It is impossible that C = cwt. here. For wages see below, p. 689.
[2] = puff or fluff, that came off in the mill, and was blown about in the air; probably the weaver might have the genuine fluff as a perquisite (Dr. Bradley).
[3] MS. wordle.

eng out of kerseys[1] & brode Cloth to the gret dyssete of the werers & the high displesure of God; wherfor it is enacted at this lete that who-so-euer fyndeth such cloth so don to take recorde if he can with hym[2] that hit be troweth that he scheweth to Maister Mayre or the justices of the peas & he schall haue xx d. for his labour forth-with. And the doer of that vntrewe dede to pay vj s. viij d. to the comen box forth-with, Or els to go to prison accordyng to the kynges Comaundement.

displeasing towards God.

6*s.* 8*d.* fine.

Also no man nor woman put no cloth to wevyng in-to the countre but to ther own neighbours within this Cite, in the payn for euery cloth so put xl d. tyll the Cite be better inhabyt.[3]

No weaving in country.

Also[4] by-cause[4] tyme of this day is fare past & certein bylles cannot be fynysshed, hit is agreed & enacted that those billes with other necessarye to the comen-welth shal-be ordered & stabelysshed by the Mayre & his Councell vpon a Councell day.

The day being far spent, it is ordered that the Council finish the business.

Mem. that if the sheriffes do not geder their fforfeates made by the letes with-in on quarter of a yere next after they haue out their stretes delyuered them, Then the comen sargeant to geder theym to the vse of the comen boxe.

"Streites."

Item, that bowes be vsed & no koyttyng nor boollyng. If ther be eny person that se such comen Boollers or koytters to schewe it to the sheriffes & they schall haue part of the penalte that they schall pay, that is to sey, euery such Boollers or koytters at euery defaute vj d., j d. to the fynders, & ij d. to the comen boxe, & iij d. to the sheriffes at euery defalt; and if ther be eny officer or constable that seith & knoeth eny such boollers or koytters & dothe not present them to the sheriffes to pay to the comen boxe vj d.

"Against bowlers And Quoiters."

Item, that no person cast no[2] bowle in the stretes within this Cite, vpon the peyn at euery tyme so doyng vj d. to

Bowls.

[1] = a kind of coarse cloth woven from long wool and generally ribbed. v. *N.E.D.*

[2] Deletion.

[3] See the complaint of the clothiers of Worcester, Evesham, Droitwich, Kidderminster and Bromsgrove in Cunningham, *Eng. Industry*, I. 518.

[4] Repeated.

the comen boxe, Or els to be comytted then to warde till they haue payd hit etc.

"Towne diche" to be cleansed by Master Marler.

[1] [Enacted] that if *Maister* Rychard Marler wolde do so moch as to cast[2] & clense eny *part* of the town dyke betwene the Well-strete yate & The Hill-strete yate, Or bytwene the Coke-strete yate & the Priore yate he to haue thuse of the same dyke, & the bankes of the same dyke to hym & his assignez so long as he or his assignez kepe the seid dyke so cast with depnes of water so hie as the broke will *serue* to bring in the water, and if he or his assignez suffre eny *parte* therof to fyll with mudde or Mukke, the Chamb*er*leins to entre vpon that *part*, and the seid Richard & his assignez to lose the cost that they haue made theron.

"For officers to waite on the mayor,"

at 7 a.m. to accompany him to church,

[Enacted][3] that eu*ery* officer that is belongyng to *Maister* Meyre of this Cite that they ben Redy eu*ery* workday at the meyr*es* place by vij of the clok in the mornyng to bryng *Maister* Meyre to church; & if he haue eny besynes to do whyll *Maister* Meyre is at church to shewe of his dep*ar*tyng to *Maister* Meire or to the sordeberer & to harkyn of his goyng frome church, & to bryng hym home to his house, & lyke wise to evensong or els to pay at eu*ery* defaute j d.; and to be redy to bryng hym to

to Jesus mass and to the market.

Jhesus masse[4] on the ffriday & after to wayte vpon hym in the market till he go home to dynn*er* in the payn of eu*ery* defaut ij d. Also on Sondays & holidays to be at *Maister* Meir*es* house before the last pele be all rongen to matens or evensong, in the same payn of ij d. And all the penalt*es* to be payd forthwith if he aske not lycens of *Maister* Meyre when he goeth from hym etc.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

"Ciuitas Couentri*e*." Oct. 12.

[5] ¶ [V. f. p. held on Tuesday after S. Dionysius' day, 10 Hen. VIII.]

Jury of 25.

Joh. Humfrey, Rob. Grene, Joh. Haddon, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Merler, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Tho. Grove, Joh. Clerk, Hen. Rogers, Tho. Waren,

[1] leaf 324. [2] To dig out.
[3] "at these present lete" follows.
[4] See above, p. 333. [5] leaf 325.

Tho. Smyth, Nic. Heynes, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Will. Wykam, Tho. White, Ric. Burwey, Hen. Wall, Jul.[1] Nethermyll, Tho. Hill, Rob. Welsh, Rog. Dawber.

[Will. Dawson, skynner, Joh. Hykkes, grasier.] Sheriffs.

[Agreed] that the ffelyship of the Cappers schall elect & chese xij of the best of the occupacion, & they at assemble emong theym-self to chewse ij serchers & they to serche & present all the fautes that ben found among theym to *Maister* Meyre, and the seid serchers to be sworn afore *Maister* Meire to make treue serche accordyng to their othe, & then *Maister* Meyre to se due correccion therin etc. "Searchers" for "Cappers."

[Enacted] that ther schal-be made due serche of all maner of Tiles & bryk that cometh to town that the stuff be good & laufull, [vpon] peyn of forfeiture of all such fauty tile; & euery tiler that leyth eny such fawty tile vpon eny house within the Cite to forfeit for euery fawte so by hym leid xl d. without eny pardon to the comen boxe etc. "Tiles & brek."

[Ordained] that Ric. Saunders, Joh. Gely,[2] Will. Warde & Will. Dale schal-be serchers of the Brode-well & the comen broke from the Hill-myll vnto seint Johyns at euery faute they ffynde the Offender to pay xij d. wherof the serchers to haue iiij d., & viij d. to the comen boxe; & so from seint Johyns to the Priore-myll. "For ouerseyng the Brode-well & Riuers."

Item, ther be chosen serchers of the water ffrom the Spon brige down to Seint Johyns brige Tho. Reves, Tho. Coton, Gef. Clowes & Joh. Sutton, & they to serche & haue for their laboure as is aforeseid, & the remanent to the comen boxe.

["Ordeigned"] that no bocher sell eny of his tallowe aboue ij s. the ston [on] payn of euery defawte vj s. viij d. wherof half to the comen boxe. And no chaundeler sell no candell aboue peny fferthyng a pounde, vpon the same payn, wherof half to the comen boxe etc. Also a [blank]. "Talowe."

[3] Also at this lete ther was a bill put in by *Maister* Richard Marler which bill herafter foloeth :—

[1] A stroke too many for Julius and too few for Julinus.
[2] ? Goby. [3] leaf 325, back.

Ric. Marler's petition about the cleansing of the ditch;

Sheweth vnto this worshipfull company at this *p*resent lete assembled Richard Marler, That where it was graunted to hym & to his assignez to haue thuse & *p*rofett of the town dyke, the which he let cast[1] & clense at his owne cost betwene the Priore yate & the Coke-strete yate —Plese it you to graunt hym in lyke man*er*, if he make the cost, to cast & clense eny other place of the town dyke, Or if eny other *p*erson of the Cite wele cast & clense eny *p*art of the dyke, vpon eny syde of the cyte he or they to haue thuse & *p*rofett of the water, if eny be, so long as he or their assignez kepe the seid dyke with water accordyng to the first entent. Also wher the gate-house

the "Bishop-gate tower"

ou*er* the Bysshop yate is not well vsed, ffor the ffloure*s* ben broken & the borde*s* born awey & the walles broken,

and a tower at the New Rents

that within litell contynuance hit will dekay sore. And also ther is a Towre next the newe Rent that hath ben long mysused with kepyng of swyne therin, & the mook of theym cast out at a hole in-to the strete to the gret noyauns & enfecc*i*on of the people comyng that way— Pleaseth it you to graunt to the seid Ric. Marler & his assignez by ve*r*tue of this *p*resent lete to haue the seid yate-house for te*r*me of xl yeres, & he & his assignez schall kepe the seid yate-house clene, & with ffloryng & wallyng; and also to cleanse & kepe clene the seid Toure duryng the seid te*r*me. And if the seid Richard or his assignes do not *p*erforme the couena*u*nte*s* before-seid within a q*u*arte*r* of a yere afte*r* they haue warnyng, Then the Chambe*r*leins to re-entre into the seid gatehouse & Towre at their plesure. And for a knolege of the same

"set ffor 2 li. off Almonds *per annum*."

the seid Richard graunted to gyue to the Chambe*r*leins eue*r*y yere the first ffriday of Lent ij li. of almons etc. Which bill was graunted, agreed & confermed by all my seid Masters at this *p*resent lete etc.

[2] *Mem.* that the elecc*i*on of *Maister* Tho. Waren when he was chosen Meire shuld haue byn entrid here; where it is writen on the next leef a-fore as apperith there etc.[2]

[1] To clear out a ditch, throwing the soil out, v. *N. E. D.*

[2–2] Another scribe. For Warren's election see leaf 324, back. See below.

THO. WAREN, MAYOR, 1519.

[1 Election of officers.] "Civitas Couentre." Jan. 25.

[2] *Mem.* that this eleccion shuld haue byn entrydde after the lete foloyng and not here.[2]

Electors.

Tho. Grove, Rob. Grene, Joh. Haddon, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Smyth, Ric. Marler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwen, Joh. Clerk, Will. Wykam, Nic. Haynes, Hen. Parkyns, Tho. Astlyn, Hug. Dawes, Hen. Wall, Julin*us* Nethermyll, Tho. Hill, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Walles, Rob. Welsh, Rog. Dawber, Ric. Kemsey, Tho. Burdon.

Officers.

[m. Tho. Waren, Dier; rec. Rad. Swyllyngton; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Tho. Sponne, whitawer, Ric. Wyther; w. Will. Coton, *Mercer*, Will. Smyth, Drap*er*; mace, Will. Alyn; crier, Ric. ffereby.]

[3] EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Ciuitas Couentr*ie*." May 5.

[V. f. p. held before Tho. Waren, m., Will. Dawson, Joh. Hykkes, b., on Thursday after the Invention of the Holy Cross, 11 Hen. VIII.]

Tho. Grove, Rob. Grene, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Marler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwyn, Nic. Burwey, Will. Wykam, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Astelyn, Hug. Dawes, Tho. White, Ric. Burwey, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Tho. Hill, Rog. Walles, Tho. Spon, Ric. Wether, Joh. Morse, Will. Banwell, Will. Coke, Ric. Towneshend.

Tallow chandlers.

ffirste, it is ordened at this lete that the Talough Chaundlers of this Cetie sell Candell betwen this and the ffeste of seynt John Baptiste next comyng for peny fferthyng the pounde, and after from thens to the ffeste of seynt Michell next ffolowyng for a peny a pounde, and no derer, apon peyn of eu*e*ry defaute vj s. viij d., halff to the comen Box and halff to the shryff*es*.

"Tanners of the Contrey."

Also it is agreid (etc.) that the Tanners of the Countrey haue ffree lyb*er*tie on the Saterday to by hydes after vij of the Clocke in the mornyng till the Markett be inded, and that no Bochers sell noo maner hide afore the same ower

[1] leaf 324, back.
[2–2] In the same hand as the note above. See above, p. 664.
[3] leaf 326. A beautiful hand of H type.

of vij ó the Clocke to noon Tanner, nor to no fforen Tanner of the Countrey by-fore that ower eny hide [or 6s. 8d. fine, half (etc.).]

Also it is enacted that the Bochers do ley forth ther hydes euery Saterday by vj of the clooke in the mornyng, apon the same peyn.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Oct. 11.

[1] ¶ [V. f. p. held on Tuesday after S. Dionysius' day, 11 Hen. VIII.]

Tho. Grove, Rob. Grene, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Hardwyn, Joh. Clerke, Joh. Humfrey, Will. Wykam, Joh. Bonde, Nic. Heynes, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. Astelyn, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Tho. White, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Hyll, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Walles, Tho. Spon, Ric. Wether, Tho. Burdon, Ric. Kemsey.

Sheriffs. [Tho. Dodde, Mercer, Joh. Crampe, baker.]

Orders of leet. ffurste, it is enacted (etc.) that no inhabitaunt of this Cetie nor fforener by eny Corne, on the market day or it com in-to the markett place, but suffer it to com in-to the markett; and the towne to haue libertie to by ffrom ix of the Cloke forward, and at xij of the Cloke the Countrey to begyn to bye and not till then, [or 6s. 8d. fine each time, half to the common box, half to the sheriffs.] And iff eny fforener or Townesman fforstall eny Corne within the libertie of this Cetie of Couentre or it com into the markett to fforffet the same peyne and in lyke maner.

"For byyng of Corne."

"For sellyng of malt." Also it is Enacted that no man sell eny malte out of the Towne when it is of the price of v s. and aboue, apon the peyne lymyted in the olde lete, that is to sey, to fforfett for euery quarter so sold vj s. viij d. [half (etc.).]

[No tallow chandler to sell candles between this and the next leet above 1½d. per lb. "apon peyn aboue lymyted."]

Also it is enacted (etc.) that the acte of hunters [2] to be put in execucion.

"For prentisez to bee [3] [Enacted] that no man within the Cetie take no prentyse ffrom this day fforward but iff he bryng into the Comen Box iiij d. and to the Styward ij d. And the Master of

[1] leaf 326, back. [2] See p. 630. [3] MS. ber.

every Craft to present the prentyse afore *Maister* Meyre and he to see his indenture sealyd and his name entred in the Styward Boke.[1] enseled before the mayor."

[2]JOH. BONDE, MAYOR, 1520.

¶ [Election of officers.] "Ciuitas Couentrie." Jan. 25.

Rob. Grene, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Marlar, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Tho. Grove, Joh. Clerke, Joh. Humfrey, Nic. Heynes, Tho. Astelyn, Hug. Dawes, Ric. Burwey, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Hill, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Walles, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hykkes, Tho. Spone, Ric. Wether, Tho. Warde, Tho. Burdon.

[m. Joh. Bonde, Draper; rec. Rad. Swyllyngton; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Hum. Moseley, Jas. Gilbert; w. Hen. Hinde, Mercer, Tho. Tressell; mace, Will. Alen; crier, Ric. ffereby.] Officers.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

[3]¶ [V. f. p. held before Joh. Bonde, m., Tho. Dodde, Joh. Cramp, b., on Thursday after S. George's day, 12 Hen. 8.] "Ciuitas Couentrie." Apr. 26.

Tho. Waren, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Duddesbury, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Tho. Grove, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. White, Tho. Smyth, Hen. Perkyns, Tho. Astleyn, Hug. Dawes, Hen. Wall, Tho. Banwell, Tho. Hyll, Ric. Heryng, Rog. Walles, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hykkes, Hum. Moseley, Jas. Gylbert, Will. Cook, Will. Towrys.

[Enacted and agreed] that all such good ordynaunces as be made for the comen-wele of the Citee afore-tyme that from-hensforth they be truly kept & executid accordyng to the true entent therof, and that the booke[4] that is newe made be takyn for an act & proclamyd at this lete etc. The book of ordinances to be proclaimed.

[Enacted] that all such grauntes, promyses & Couenauntes as *Maister* Meyre & his brethern han made with Joh. Mors, Weuer, touchyng the office of Shyrrywyke of The shrievalty.

[1] See above, pp. 560 *sqq*.
[2] leaf 327. [3] leaf 327, back. Scribe G.
[4] Is the existing MS. the "boke" referred to here?

the Citie that the seid John enjoy them [1]accordyng[1] to there promyse without fraude or craft etc.

Tallow. [Enacted] that no taloo be solde by-twene this & the next lete a-bove ij s. the Stonne, apon the peyn of euery defaute vj s. viij d., wherof half to the comen boxe etc.

Chandlers. Also that no Talochaundeler [sell] no candyll a-bove peny ferthyng the pounde, apon the same peyn, wherof half to the Comen boxe etc.

[Enacted] that no inhabitant of the Citee cast eny muk or ffilth without the town wall within xl fote therof, or

No garden for "40 ffoot within the Citty wall." make eny gardeyn or wodpleck[2] with-in xl^ti fote therof [or 40d. fine each time, half to the sheriffs, and half to the common box.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Oct. 9, 1520. [3]¶ [V. f. p. held on Tuesday, S. Dionysius' day, 12 Hen. VIII.]

Tho. Waren, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Marler, Joh. Strong, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. White, Tho. Smyth, Will. Wykam, Hen. Parkyns, Tho. Astlyn, Hugo Dawes, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Jul. Nethirmyll, Tho. Hyll, Ric. Heryng, Rog. Walles, Will. Dawson, Hum. Moseley, Jas. Gilbert, Ric. Kemsey, Ric. Toty.

Bailiffs and Sheriffs. [Tho. Hervy, Ric. Ryse.]

[Whereupon T. Hervy was enjoined in full court that he should be here, *i. e.* in the Gild-hall at the next holding of the court on Monday next after S. Luke the Evangelist's day (Oct. 22) to take the oath for the exercise of his office, on pain of £100. On which day Tho. Hervy solemnly cited does not appear, but makes default. Therefore he forfeited the afore-said penalty, *i. e.* £100. And further the same

Et super hoc Iniunctum[4] est eidem Thome Hervy in plena Curia quod sit hic scilicet in Guyhalda eiusdem Ciuitatis ad proximam Curiam ibidem tenendam, scilicet die Lune proximo post ffestum S. Luce euangeliste ad recipiendum sacramentum suum pro officio illo exercendo sub pena Centum librarum etc. Ad quem quidem diem Lune predictus Tho. Hervy solempniter exactus non venit set defaltum facit. Ideo ffor*i*sfecit penam supradictam, videlicet Centum libras. Et ulterius preceptum est

[1—1] repeated.
[2] *N. E. D.* s. v. pleck = a small piece or plot . . . a small enclosure.
[3] leaf 328, back. [4] A stroke of "n" wanting.

Tho. Hervy was ordered to be at the next court held in the aforesaid Gild-hall to take his oath, under the penalty of £200. On which day the said Tho. Hervy came in his proper person, but would not take the oath as it was commanded him. Therefore he forfeited the aforesaid penalty, *i. e.* £200.]

eidem Tho. Hervy *quod* sit hic ad *proximam* Curiam in Guyhalda *predicta* tenand*am* ad recipiend*um* sacra*mentum* suum etc. sub pena ducenta*rum* librar*um* etc. Ad quem diem hic ven*it* *predict*us Tho. Hervy in *propria* *persona* sua, set noluit recipere[1] sacra*mentum* suum, sicut ei precep*tum* fuit. I*deo* for*isfecit* penam supradict*am*, videl*icet* ducentas libras etc.

[Enacted] that no inh*ab*itant of the *pa*risch of seynt Michell when *þe*r course comyth to gyf the halycake that they make but on haly-cake, and that they put no more theryn but the Teyre[2] of thre stryke of whete, and noder to make cake nor bun beside the haly-cake, [or 20s. fine to the common box.] And the inh*ab*itaunt*es* of the Trinity p*a*rish to put no more in theire haly-cate but the teyre of too strike of whete, & node*r* bun nor cake moo, [or 20s. fine to the common box.] "Holicak."

[Enacted that no tallow be sold above 2s. the "stonne," and no "candyll" above 1¼d. per lb.] And that their penyworth and halpurth be sold after the same p*r*ise & no derre, apon the peyn of euery defaute vj s. viij d. to the com*en* box w*ith*out eny g*r*ace. Tallow.

[Enacted] that *Maister* Meyre for the yere beyng fromhensforth shall haue the deno*mina*c*i*on and to chose yerely on of the kepers of the occupac*i*on of bochers, and the craft to name the oder keper accordyng as is vsid w*ith* the phelishipp*es* of Bakers and ffyshmongers, and if the bochers wyll not a-gre to this Act the hole occupac*i*on to lese at eu*e*ry defaut C s. to the com*en* boxe.[4] "Eleccion of the Maisters of the bochers."[3]

[Enacted] that the gat*es* of the Citee shal-be shot eu*e*ry nyght at viij of the clok and openyd at v of the clok in the mornyng, and thus to contynue as long as hit is thought necessarie therfore for the p*reser*uac*i*on of good rulee etc. "Gaittes of the Citie."

[1] MS. reperire.
[2] Tare = allowance of an extra weight, cf. "tare and tret." *v.* N. E. D. *s. v.* Cloff. Probably this limitation was on account of the dearth. For the holy cake see p. 417, 680.
[3] "Bochers" deleted follows.
[4] See Introduction.

THE CAPPERS.

[1] The Constitucions and Ordinances of the Craft of the Cappers within the Cite of Couentre Made and Confermyd by Maistre John Bonde, Maier of the same Cite, at the lete day the ix[th] day of Octobre [12 Hen. VIII.]

To meet on the feast of the Name of Jesus, Aug. 7. "for electing masters,"

In primis That all the hoole Company Mete togeder at a place assigned apon the day and ffeast of the In nomine Jhesu, and that same Day than and ther to chuse new kepers for that yer ffollowyng, vpon the payne to forfett v li. vnto the comyn box; and yf he or they so choson Refuse yt he to pay xl s., half to the comyn Box and half to the craft, except he can shew a Cause Reasonable afore *Maister* Meyer and his brethern why he so doith, and the same *Maister* to be admytted by the Maier and his brethern; and what persone of the Craft that ys awey that day yf he haue had iij Daies warnyng to pay xij d. without it be a cause Reasonable; and when it so fortunes that the said Eleccion day fallys vpon Friday, Satterday, or Sonday the second *Maisters* deuour[2] to be defferrid tel the Tewysday next after.

who are to be received by the mayor.

"Accompt" made at Christmas.

Also That euery Maister after he ys dischargid Make his accompte vnto the new Maisters atte feast of the natyvety of our Lorde next followyng, vpon the payne of iij li. half to the maier & half to the Craft, without license of the newe kepers for the tyme beyng etc.

"Apprentices." Two allowed.

Also That no Man haue no moo prentises at wons but two, and that he take them no lesse yers than vij, and that [no] man kepe them in his hows past the space of on monethe but yf ther Indentures be sealid before the Maisters of the said Craft for the yer beyng; and for euery prentyz to be brought in iiij d. to the Craftes box, iiij d. to the *Maisteres* Box, and iiij d. to the comyn box. And the said *Maisteres* to se inmediatly ther names Entrid in the craftes bok, ther termys and ther covenauntes, so that the craft may perfetly knowe of ther departing, and to se for bothe parties that al covenauntes be suerly kept; and he or they that sealid any Indenturs

Fines to be paid on their admission,

and their names "enroled."

[1] leaf 329. Another scribe. See above, pp. 572 *sqq.*

[2] Is the second master not to pay his duty to the mayor when time fails?

but in the presens of on of the kepers to lese at euery deffaut xl d. without the licens of the kepers.

Also [but] yf the said kepers Registur trewly the said Indenturs and Couenauntes after the Ordinaunces aboue namyd then they to forfet at euery deffaut vj s. viij d., half to the Meyer & half to the Craft.

Indentures to be "Registred."

Also yt ys ordenyd that no man of the said Craft take noo prentyȝ vnlesse than he haue a obligacion of hym and sufficient surtes boundon for hym to performe his couenauntes, and he or they to be boundon to hys Maister in the somme of v li. at the least, and who so doith the contrary to forfet to ther craft xl s. half to the Meier and half to the craft etc.

"Apprentices bound by obligation."

Also yf any prentiz of the said Craft departe from his Maister hereafter by any mean, & exceipt it be by the visitacion of God, the said Maister to haue no moo prentyȝ duryng the said termys, exceipt he delyuer the obligacion of his said prentyȝ, so gone awey, to the Maister of the said Craft, and they to take the advauntage therof to the vse of the said Craft; and that the Maister of the said prentyȝ shall avowe al accions[1] to be takon in his owne name by the Maister of the said Craft for the yer beyng, and not a quyttance to make lesse than by the grement of the said Maistre, vpon the payne of C s.

In the case of "Departing of Apprentices,"

the bond to be delivered to the craft master for the craft's profit,

no discharge being allowed whereby the original sum should be diminished.

Also yf any prentiz of the said Craft complayne hym to the said Maister that he haue not his sufficient fyndyng accordyng to the customys of this Cyte, so prouyd at the first tyme the Maisters to gyf to the maister of the said prentiȝ a monycion to se it be amendid, at the second faut a Reasonable fyne, and at the iij^de^ tyme the Maistres of ther power to take the said prentiz awey from hym and sett hym with another Man of the Craft wher he shal-be better orderyd, and his Maister to be clerly dischargid of hym.

"Abusing Apprentices."

First complaint a warning; second, a fine; third, the apprentice to be removed.

Also that no persone of the saide Craft Rebuke any of the Maisters for the yer beyng, vpon the payne to pay vj s. viij d. at euery deffaut, half to the Maier and half to the Craft, and if any persone of the Craft will not agre

"Opprobrious words to the masters,"

[1] *i. e.* for the recovery of the money from the securities.

that this forfect[1] shuld be paide he hym-self to pay xl d. without any grace.

or "Against bretheren off the ffellowship."

Also yf any persone of the said Craft Rayle on against another in the premysses of the Maisters for the yer beyng after they be commaundid by on of the Maisters to kepe syllence he or they to forfeet vj s. viij d., half to the Mayer and half to the craft.

"Attendance on the Mastur of the Crafte."

[2]Also That all Mene of the Craft be Redy to wayte vpon the [3]Craft[3] Maisters at suche tymes as they shal-be Reasonably warnyd by the somner for the worship of the Cyte or the welthe of the Craft, vpon the payn to lose at euery deffaute xl d., half to the Mayer and half to the craft.

"Consell disclosed to move dissention."

Also That no persone of the said Craft disclose nor vtter no thynges that ought of Right to be secretly kept amonges themselfes wherby any dyssension or debate myght Ryse theruppon, vppon the payne of euery deffaute so provid vj s. viij d., half to the Maier and half to the Craft.

Forbidden "to put forth the worke" to any whose fines are unpaid.

Also That no persone of the Craft put forthe no pece of warke to noo Man exceipt he haue paide his hoole fynes, or elles the Maisters gyf hym leve to work for suche causes as shal-be thought nedfull by the advise of ther brethern, vpon the payn to lose at euery dyffaut so prouyd x s., half to the Maier and half to the Craft.

"Cappes thycking."

Also It is Ordenyde that no man thyk nor presse noo Journeymens Cappes Exceipt they be old Cappes [or 6s. 8d. fine each time, half to the common box, and half to the craft.] And that no man put forthe nother spynnyng nor knyttyng vnto none of them that vsithe to spyn or knyttythe any Journeymens Cappes tell they be brought before the Maisteres of the Craft and agre be-fore thaym and to vse it no more, vpon the payn who-so dothe the Contrary to pay vj s. viij d. half to the comyn box and half to the Craft. And that no man sett his Journeyman vpon no notherman's work aftur he know he mak Cappis of his owne tell he haue paid his fyne, vppon the payn to lose at euery dyffaut so prouyd x s. half to the Comyn box and half to the Craft. And that no man tak no new spynner nor knytters yf they haue wrought to any of the

Boycott of spinners who work for Journeymen.

[1] or "forfeet." [2] leaf 329, back. [3—3] deleted.

craft before, but that they bryng hym a token from hym that they wrought *with*all before To know that she haue well & Trewly vsid her self or noo in good work and puttyng in her stuf, and who so dothe the Cont*r*ary to lose at eu*er*y diffaute xx d. *with*out any grace etc. Every spinner must furnish a character from a former master.

Also It ys Ordeyned that eu*er*y Maister once in hys yer to goo through the hole Cyte to eu*er*y Mans hows of the Craft and by ther Registers to call for eu*er*y prentise be[2]-fore thaym to know how the constitucions be kept, and what Maist*ur* that faut*es* herin to pay xl s. *with*out any grace, half to the Meyer and half to the Craft. "Maiour[1] [to] go abrode to examin prentises."

Also That noon of the said Craft Make no Cappis but that they put sufficient stuf in them so that they may abide the workmanship, and that they make them not slyghtly to the sale and gret dissaite to the people [or 40d. fine each time, half to the mayor and half to the craft.] "Cappes" to be well made.

Also That noo Maister nor Jo*ur*neyman by no Mano*ur* of yern or Colloryde woll, vpon the payn of xx s., half to the comyn box and half to the Craft. And that no Jo*ur*neyman worke no Cappis in ther own howsys,[3] but Exceipt yt shalbe lefull to the said Jo*ur*neymen to ffreshe and scower old Bonett*es* in ther own howsys, [or 12d. fine each time, half to the mayor and half to the craft.] "Yarne & woll." Journeymen not to compete with their masters.

Also That eu*er*y Journeyman of the said Craft from Michelmas to Easter cu*m* to ther worke at syx of the Cloke in the mornyng and worke vntyll vij of the Clok at nyght, and from Ester to Michelmas to cu*m* at v of the Clok and work tell vij at nyght. And that noo Jo*ur*neyman go from his Maister exceipt he gyf his Maister xiiij days warnyng, upon the payn of vj s. viij d. And that no Jo*ur*neyman be set on worke *with*out license of the Maister of the Craft, and he to se wheder he be a workman or nott etc. "Journeymen to worke what hower." 6 a.m. till 7 p.m. in winter. 5 a.m. till 7 p.m. in summer. Due notice.

Also That noo p*er*son of the Craft teche noo poynt*es* of the Craft to noo p*er*son save to hys prentiz and hys wyf [or 100 s. fine, half to the mayor and half to the craft.] "Apprentises onely to be taught."

[1] A slip; read Maister. [2] repeated.
[3] "but in ther owne howsys" follows.

THE DEARTH. A CENSUS.

Oct. 10, 1520.

A view taken during a dearth of the amount of provisions and the number of inhabitants in the city.

[1] Memoran*dum* That the x[th] day of Octobre and in the yer of the Raigne of Kyng Henry the Viij[th] ,[2] then Maister Joh. Bonde beyng Maier of the Cite of Couentre, The price of all maner of Corne and graynes be-ganne to a-Ryse, wheruppon a veu was takon by the said Maier and his brethern what stores of all Maner of Corne, and what nombre of people was then whithin the said Cite, men, women and Childern, etc.

Nomber of people in eue*ry* warde.	The nomber of Greynes of all Maner of Cornes.
	Su*m*ma :
Erle-strete warde. vij C and vij *per*sones.	In Malt, iiij C liiij q*uarter*,
	In Rie, xxxvj stryke di*m*.
	In whete, xvij q*uarter* ij stryk.

707 persons; malt, 454 qrs.; rye, 36½ strike; wheat, 17 qrs. 2 strike.

[Smithford Street ward.

406 persons; malt and barley, 220 qrs.; rye, 15 qrs. 2 strike; wheat, 2½ qrs.; "ottes," 27 qrs.; "pese," 7½ qrs.

Gosford Street ward.

875 persons; malt, 456 qrs.; "whet & Rye," 16 qrs.; peas, 1 qr.

Much[3] Park Street ward.

719 persons; malt, 287[4] qrs.; wheat, 14½ qrs. 1 strike; peas, 7 qrs.

Bishop Street ward.

1018 persons; malt, 334 qrs.; wheat and rye, 26 qrs.; peas, 1 qr.

Bayly Lane ward.

459 persons; wheat, 1 qr. 6 strike; malt, 150 qrs. 3 strike; barley, 20 qrs.; rye, 19 qrs.; oats, 9 qrs. 2 strike; peas, 1 qr. 6 strike.

"Brodyate warde."

552 persons; wheat, 1 qr. 3[5] strike; malt, 100 qrs.; rye, 1 qr. 5½ strike; oats, 2 qrs.

[1] leaf 330. [2] Year omitted. [3] MS. Miche.
[4] ij C $\overline{\text{iiij}}$ vij. [5] "vj" deleted.

Cross-Cheaping ward.

884 persons; wheat, 1½ qrs.; rye, 18 qrs.; malt, 180 qrs.

[1]Jordan Well ward.

354 persons; malt, 100 (v score) qrs.; wheat, none (null*um*); rye, 3 qrs.

Spon Street ward.

627 persons; malt, 198[2] qrs.; rye and wheat, 3 qrs. 7 strike.]

Summa totalis of the numbre of the people then beying *with*in the Cyte, of men, women and Childern.

Summa to*t*alys. vj M^{li} vjC & j.

In Malt, ij M^{li} $\overset{C}{\text{iij}}$ $\overset{xx}{\text{v}}$ & v *quarter*,[3] — 6601 persons; malt, 2405 qrs. (two thousand three hundred five score and five); rye and maslin, 100 qrs. 1 strike; wheat, 47 qrs.; oats, 39 qrs., 2 strike; peas, 18 qrs., 2 strike.

In Rye & Mastlin } jC *quarter*, j stryk,

In whet, xlvij *quarter*,

In ott*es*, xxxix *quarter*, ij stryk,

In pese, xviij *quarter*, ij stryk.

Also a veu by hym takon what supstance of malt was then brewede *with*in the Cyte wokly by the comyn brewers that brewed to sell and fyll furthe by the Sesters; the nombre of the comyn brewers in all the Cyte ys . . . . . $\overset{xx}{\text{iij}}$ viij — "Brewers." 68 brewers.

Item, they brewid wekly in malt $\overset{xx}{\text{vij}}$ vj *quarter*, j b*us*. — 146 qrs. 1 bushel.

Mem. that ther was brought into this said Cyte the ffryday before Crystmas day in the yer of the said Joh. Bonde then beying mayer by his labo*ur* and his ffrendys to helpe to susteyne the Cyte *with* corne of all maner of greyne.

Sum*m*a $\overset{xx}{\text{iiij}}$ & xvij *quarter* and vj stryke. — 97 qrs. 6 strike.

Mem. that ther was at that tyme xliij bakers *with*in the Cyte, the wiche dyd bake wekly a-mongest all $\overset{xx}{\text{vj}}$ *quarter* of whet & xij besyd*es* pese and Rye. — 43 bakers who bake 132 qrs. of wheat every week.

[1] leaf 330, back. [2] j C $\overset{xx}{\text{iij}}$ xviij. [3] Queer arithmetic.

WILL. WICAM, MAYOR, 1521.

"Ciuitas Coventre." Jan. 25.

[1] ¶ [Election of new officers [2] "*secundum antiquam* Consuetudinem Ciuitatis *predicte* ffacta *per*"]

Electors.

Tho. Waren, M.G.S.T., Rob. Grene, Joh. Duddesbure, Ric. Marler, Joh. Strong, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Clark, Joh. Humfrey, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Astlen, Hug. Dawes, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Tho. Hyll, Ryc. Herryng, Rog. Walles, Will. Dawson, Joh. Cramp, Hum. Molsley, Jas. Gylbert, Ric. Kemsey, Ric. Totte, Tho. Gordon, Ric. Harres.

Officers.

[m., Will. Wicam,[3] draper; rec. Rad. Swyllyngton; cor. Joh. Boteler; steward, Joh. Porter; ch. Hugo Lawton, Rob. Seny; w., Rog. Palmer, Will. Alynson; mace, Will. Alen; crier, Ric. ffereby.]

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Ciuitas Couentre." Apr. 16.

[4] ¶ [V. f. p. held before Will. Wicam, m., Will. Towers, Ric. Ryse, on Tuesday, Apr. 16, 12 Hen. VIII.]

Tho. Waren, Rob. a Grene, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Marler, Joh. Strong, Joh. Clerke, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Whyte, b. Tho. Smyth,[5] a. Jul. Nethermyll,[5] Hen. Perkyns, Tho. Astlyn, Hugo Dawes, Ric. Borwey, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Walles, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hykes, Hug. Lawton, Rob. Seyne, Ric. Kemsey, Will. Banwell, Will. Smyth, draper.

Coroner.

[Who elect Rob. Grene jun. coroner within the said city of the county of Coventry and liberty of the same.]

Office compulsory.

[Enacted] att This present lete whereas in a lete holden in the Tyme of *Maister* Joh. Bonde[6] that no man off what degre he be of, that is electyd[7] to any offyce, do Refuse hit & no peyne thereon is lymytyd, therfore hyt is agreyd and enactyd att this lete that if any person from hensforthe be electyd Meyer & he

[1] leaf 331, back; another scribe. There is a space left unfilled for an ornamented initial.

[2] = [An election] made according to the ancient custom of the city by (names follow). This phrase follows the stereotyped election formula on this occasion.

[3] "Maistrum" prefixed. [4] leaf 332.

[5] The a. and b. preceding these clearly shows that there was a due order observed in the names.

[6] See above, p. 668–9. [7] "is electe" occurs lower.

then absent hym-selffe and Refuse hyt he to pay to the Comen box a hundrethe poundes[1]; [for refusal to act as "Scheryffe," a hundred marks, as "Master of ether of the yeldes," £40, as chamberlain or warden, £20.] Provydyd allwey that ther be no man Chargeyd Twysse in one offyce, onles then he be Intretyd and content therwythall.

"The Maiors £100. For eleccion of officers. The Sheriffes, 100 markes. Chamberlaine and warden, xx li. No man to be charged with on office twise."

Also hyt is enacted & agreyd that euery aldurman serche hys warde & se whiche be Impotent and nedy beggers and euery of them that be amyttyd to beg to haue a Token of ther bagge of the signe of the Olyfaunt, & all other that haue no bagge not to be suffered to dwell in the Cytte, and that thei departe the Cytte with-in a nyght and a daye.

Aldermen to search for beggars.

Every deserving beggar to have the city arms on his bag.

[2]¶ [V. f. p. held on Tuesday before S. Dionysius' day, 13 Hen. VIII.]

"Ciuitas Coventrie." Oct. 8, 1521.

[*Magister* Tho. Waren, *Magister* Rob. Grene, *Magister* Joh. Duddesbury, *Magister* Ric. Marler, *Magister* Joh. Stronge, *Magister* Joh. Clarke, *Magister* Joh. Humfrey, *Magister* Joh. Bonde, *Magister* Tho. Smyth, *Magister* Tho. Whyte, *Magister* Hen. Perkyns, *Magister* Tho. Astlen, *Magister* Hugo Dawes,[1] *Magister* Ric. Burwey, *Magister* Tho. Banwell, *Magister* Hen. Wall, *Magister* Ric. Herryng, *Magister* Rog. Walles, *Magister* Will. Dawson, *Magister* Joh. Hykkys, *Magister* Joh. Cramp, Hugo Lawton, Rob. Seny, Ric. Kemsey.]

[Tho. Gopesell, Joh. Eborne.]

Sheriffs.

[Agreed] att this lete that there be euery yere Choson iiij ale Tastores[1] in euery warde, and that hit be geven them in commaundement by the aldurman of the warde that ij of them shal-be Redy att all tyme or Tymes[1] when any brewer in the warde sendith ffor them to gooe to the bruers howse and tast ther ale, & se that it be abull; & that thei se that they bruers sell no ale but by a Mesure sealyd with the Comen seale, apon the peyne of vj d. att euery defavte; and also that the seyde ale Tasters schall see that ther be no Typlers in there warde sell any ale by any Mesure les[3] then it be scaled with the seale in the

4 "Ale-tasters" in each ward

to visit every brewer.

Standard measures.

[1] This scribe uses very often for final "s" the sign that stands for final "es." [2] leaf 332, back. [3] = unless.

Cytte vseyd, apon lyke peyne, whether hyt [be] Mesures of pewter or of wode.

"Brewers" not to sell ale when malt is above 20*d.* a sextary.

[Ordained] att this lete that no bruer *with*in this Cytte or the fforrens of the same sell any ale owt of his dore so long as Mavlt is of the *p*rice of a nobull or[1] a-bowe[1] xx d. a sest*ur*. And yf the *p*rice of Malte be vndur the *p*rice of a noboll then the seyd bruers to sell ther ale for xviij d. a sest*ur*; and that thei sell xiiij galondes to the sest*ur* [or 6s. 8d. fine, to be paid to the sheriffs, half to the sheriffs' use, and half to the common box.] And if the seyde Penalties for breaking this ordinance. Marciment be nott payyd to the seyd Scheryffes att the furst askyng, then att the secunde askyng thei to pay for eu*er*e soche defavte xiij s. iiij d. And for defavte of payment of the seyd xiij s. iiij d. thei to ly in *p*rison by the Meyres com*m*aundement, ther to remayne vntyll soche tyme that thei haue payde the same Merceament.

"Brewers." [2] Also that no bruer sell no ale vntyll the ale-Tasters haue alowyd the same ale to bee good and sufficient, apon the peyne of eu*er*y bruer doyng the contrarie to pay vj d. to be apployd to the vse aforeseyde.

"Ale tasters." [Ordained] that and casse be[3] that any of the seyd iiij ale Tastores in eu*er*e warde *with*-in this Cytte be necligent or remysse in doyng his office, when hee or thei be required by any of the seyd bruers, thei to forfett for eu*er*y defavte vj d. to be aployyd to the vse of thé Comen box and the Scheryffes, as is afore-seyde.

"Tiplers [to] sell by sealed measures." [Ordained] that eu*er*y ynholder and Typler *with*in this Cytte and the forrens of the same schall sell a quarte of the best ale ffor ob. & a potell for a peny, and a galon off ale for ij d., & so to sell aftur the Rate; and that no bruer, ynholder or Typler schall sell no alle but by Mysure of pewter or of woode seallyd *with* the sealle of the Cytte apoynteyd & ordenyd for the same, apon the payne of eu*er*e soche offender that dothe the contrary for the ffurst defaute xl d., and for the secunde defavte vj s. viij d., and for the thyrde defaute Imprisoment by the Meires Com-maundement vntyll the seyd Mercymentes be contentyd & payyd, and to be apployd the one halffe to the vse of the Scheryffes, and the other halffe to the Comen box.

[1] repeated. [2] leaf 333. [3] = if it happen.

"Talow." Also hit is Made that no bocher of this Cytte sell ane Taloo a-bowe the price of xx d. a stone; and the Chaundelers to sell ther Candull aftur a j d. a pownde, apon the peyne for euere defavte iij s. iiij d. to be payyd and gethereyd to the vse a-foreseyd withowt any ffauore or pardon.

THO. WHITE, MAYOR, 1522.

"Ciuitas Coventrie." [1][Election of a new mayor, recorder, coroner, steward, chamberlains, wardens, new . . . (cetera desunt).]

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Ciuitas Coventrie." May 6. [2]¶ V. f. p. held before Tho. White, m., Tho. Gobsell, Tho. Eyburn, b., on Tuesday after the Invention of the Holy Cross, 14 Hen. VIII.]

Joh. Bonde, Rob. Grene, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Marler, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Clerke, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Waren, Will. Wycam, Hen. Wall, Tho. Smyth, Jul. Nethermyll, Henri Perkyns, Tho. Astlyn, Tho. Herryng, Joh. Cramp, Joh. Hykkes, Will. Parker, Will. Banwell, Ric. Povey, Ric. Townnesend, Jac. Hobson, Tho. Wylmer, Tho. Napton.

Orders of leet. Stranger craftsmen's fines. Be hyt rememberyd that where hyt was inactyd at a lete in the tyme of Maister Borwey,[3] m., that euere person what Craft he bee of comeyng to Inabet within the Cytte schall pay to the Maister of his Craft att the ende of the ffurst yere of his inabetyng v s., and in the ende of the seconde yeer other v s., hit is nowe agreyd & inacted that the same acte schall stonde in strenkeyth & effecte, and ffarther that att the ende of the fforst yere the same persones schall put in sufficient suertes to the Maister of his or ther Crafte to paye the same v s. in the iiij [? ij] yere acordyng to the same acte.

Rent gatherers of the common lands. [Enacted] that the ten men Choson & heraftur to be Choson getherars for the Comen box schall receve ther rentes yerly of the Comen Grownde last taken yn be-fore the feaste of the holy Rode.[4]

"Comon grounde" Also that the Tenauntes of all the same Comen Grownde

[1] leaf 333, back. [2] leaf 334. [3] See above, p. 655. [4] Sept. 14.

to be sown with wheat.

last taken yn to be seuerall schall yerly plowe & sowe all or halffe the same Grownde*s* or els to fforfet ther takes[1] & lese*s*.

The holy cakes.

Also that no man of this Cytte schall by whete ffor the hale-cakes[2] in the Market before the ower of a-leven of the cloke, on-les hit be bowght by the Comen ser*i*aunt of the Citte, apon peyne of euere defavte xl d.

"Fishemongers"

[Enacted] that all ffyshemonger*s* as sone as thei, or anne of them, haue solde ther well-watur fysche thei schall vp ther borde*s*, & washe vp non to sell that daye nor vntyll hit be well watur*y*d, apon peyn of euere defawte xl d. Allso that no fyshemonger by no ffreyshe Code in the Market be-fore the ower of ij of the Cloke aftur-none, apon lyke peyne.

not to sell (salted) fish until it be sufficiently soaked in water.

"Fish & ffishmongers."

Also that no maner of ffreshe sey ffyshe schal-be in the Market to sell aftur the ower of ij of the Cloke, apon peyn of fforfetur to the prisoners.

"Chamb-leyns. Chamberlins to haue Little Parke."

[3] [Enacted] that the Chamberlens of the Cittee schal-be restoreyd to the Lyttull Parke to ocupi hit as thei haue don in tymes past and the Scheryffes to be dischargeyd therof.

"Apparell for shireffes."

Hit is inacted that the Scheryffes of the Cytte, nowe choson & heraftur to be choson, schall were in ther gownde*s* nothor fforre of ffoyndes,[4] nor marturnes, nor no veluet in ther dwblette*s* nor jerkyns or partletes,[5] except he or thei be notyd and knowyn in this Cytte to be of the Substans of iij li. & a-bowe, a-pon peyne of euere man so offendyng to fforfet xx^ti^ markes to be leveyd by the Meyre to the vse of the Comen box.

"Apparell" for commoners.

Also that all Comener*s* within this Cytte vndur the degre of a Scheryffe schall where in ther gownde*s* ffeore of ffox, schankes[6] or lambe & none other fforres, & in ther Dublette*s* or Jakette*s* bott Chamlet,[7] Saten of Bryges[8] or wolsted, & none other sylke*s*, on-les he be notyd & knowyn

[1] Take = a holding. [2] *v.* p. 417. [3] leaf 334, back.
[4] Fur of the beech-marten. L. fagina = a beech tree. *v.* Stat. 6 Hen. VIII. c. 1 (*Soc. Eng.* III. 161.) for sumptuary laws.
[5] Partlet = collar, ruff, or habit-shirt.
[6] Fur of animals' legs.
[7] Originally an Eastern fabric, and at one time made up from the hair of the Angora goat.
[8] Bruges.

to be of the valure & substauns[1] of a C li. & a-bowe, [or £10 fine to be levied as above.]

"Apparell" for servants.

Item, that no seruant man or woman reteyneyd for wages within this Citte where veluet in[2] eny other aparell apon them, apon the peyne of ffarfatur of the same aparell to the vse of the Comen box of the Cytte, & upon peyne of imprisoment.

"Payments by the Shireffes"

Also wher-as in tymes past the scheryffes hathe byn Chargeyd with the payment of xx^ti^ markes to Maister Recorder of this Cytte ffor hys ffee, hyt [is] enactyd (etc.) that for the terme of this thre yere next Insuyng that the seyd scheryffes new electe & herc-aftur to be electe duryng the seyd thre yeres to be dyschargeyd in condicion that the seyd scheryffes newe electe take ther office on them lovyngly withowt contradiccion. And also the seyd eleccion haue condecendyd & agreyd that the xx markes schal-be born in maner & forme folowyng, þat is to sey, the Maister of the Trinite Gilde schall paye vj li. xiij s. iiij d., Item, the Maister of the Corpus *Christi* Gylde viij markes, & Item, the wardens of the Citte for the tyme beyng v markes.

defrayed by the gilds and wardens.

"Searchers of Leather."

Hyt is ordenyd & inacted att this Comen cownsell daye[3] that Maister Meyer of this Cytte ffor the tyme beyng schall yerly ffrom hensfforth[4] shall[5] Chose & apoynt ij onest men of this Cytte to be serchers of all lether to be solde within this Cytte, & that they thynke & alowe to be sufficient tannyd to sett a seall, whiche shal-be ordenyd & delyuerd ffor the same; & the seyd serchers schall haue for ther labores vj s. viij d., the one halfe of the Tanners & the other halffe of the cordeners,[6] and for euery hyd by them seallyd beyng fownde insufficient thei to fforfet xij d. to the vse of the Comen box.

"Tanners."

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Sept. 30.

[7] ¶ [V. f. p. held on Tuesday after Michaelmas, 14 Hen. VIII.]

[1] A mark looking like "au" above the line occurs sometimes in conjunction with "un."

[2] (?) read "or." Apparel = (1) attire; (2) trimming, embellishment.

[3] Sic. The Common Council must by this time have transacted the business of the Leet, when it was thought needful.

[4] Blank follows in MS. [5] redundant.

[6] Cordwainers, shoemakers. [7] leaf 335.

[*Magister* Joh. Bonde,[1] Rob. Grene, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Marler, Ric. Harssall, Joh. Clarke, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Waren, Will. Wycam, Hen. Wall, Tho. Smyth, Jul. Nethermyll, Hen. *Per*kyns, Tho. Astlyn, Ric. Burwey, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Walles, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hykkys, Joh. Crampp, Will. Towers, Ric. Ryse, [1]Will. *Par*ker.]

Sheriffs. [Ric. Wether, Will. Tyllet.]

"No Baker, Bocher, Vitteler to be on *the*[2] graunde Jurie." ["Inactyd"] that ffrom-hensforthe that ther schall no baker, bocher nor no whyttelleer be on[3] of the xxiiij [4]electyd for the graunt Jure[4] att any lete to be holden within thys Cytte heraft*ur*.[5]

"Assise of bred." [Ordained] that *Maister* Meyre [4]for the tyme beyng[4] schall geyffe the bakers ther assyse aftur the price of the best whete in the Market by-cavse þe xxiiij[tl][6] wolde haue them kepe ther full syse.

"Bakers" not to diminish the weight of the ha'penny loaf. Also that eu*er*e baker ffrom-hensfforth kepe his ffull syse, & yf he lake in the whyght of a havpeny whete loff, eu*er*y baker so offendyng to paye xij d. [7]And if he be fownde defectyve abowe that then he to paye aftur the Rate for his [8]defaute.

"Bakers" [Agreed] att the seyd lete that if any of the seyd bakers offende too tymes that then *Maister* Meyer ffor the tyme beyng schall gyffe hym warnyng to bake no more vntyll he haue ffownde schvrty to kepe the assyse that *Maister* Meyer dothe gyff hym ffrom that day fforward, a-pon the peyne of xl s.

to furnish security to keep the assize.

"Bakers" to sell three loaves a penny. [Ordained] that the bakers schall bake no horsse-bred but of good stuffe, and that they sell no more for a peny but[9] iij lovis & xiij to the desen, & that thei kepe ther assyse that *Maister* Meyre gyffeth them, apon peyne att the furst defavte ij s., & if he be fownde favte any other tyme then *Maister* Meyer for the tyme beyng to gyffe hym warnyng to bake no more in the peyne of xl s. vntyll he haue fownd suerte [10]to be bowndon in the some of xl s.[10] to kepe hys assyse from that day fforward.

"Bakers" [Ordained] that and yf any baker[9] *with*in this Cytte[9]

[1] Every name with the exception of the last is preceded by *Magister*.
[2] A later hand. þ here written y. [3] MS. om.
[4—4] Interlined. [5] See *Life in an Old Engl. Town*, p. 106.
[6] The Leet Jury. [7] See above, p. 385. [8] deletions.
[9] repeated. [10—10] interlined.

from hensforth sell or gyffe[1] any horsse bred[2] aboue iij lou*e*s for a penne &[2] xiijth to the dosen, that then the seyd baker schall fforfet ffor eu*e*ry defavte vj s. viij d. to [be] leueyd by the scheryf*e*s of the Cytte,[2] halffe to them[1] & halffe to the[2] vse of the[2] Comen box.

to sell horse-bread, three loaves a penny.

[3][Ordained] that all bruers & Typlers order them-selffe to sell ther ale w*ith* sealyd Mesur*e*s soche as byn ordenyd, apon the peyne of the ffurst defavte vj s. viij d.; and iff thei be ffownde favte an-other tyme that then M*aister* Meier ffor the yere beyng schall Gyffe them warnyng to sell no more alle vntyll thei haue fownd suertes to obs*e*rue & kepe the seyd acte, apon the peyne of xl d. alffe (*sic*) to the sheryffys & halffe to the Comen box.

"Brewers" to use sealed measures, and also to find surety to observe this ordinance.

Also lefull be hyt to eu*e*ry bocher w*ith*in this Cytte to sley of eu*e*ry man*e*r of kynd of fflesch resonabull ffor mannys mete as moche as hym lykyth, and as oft, & that no caue nor ordenaunce[4] be made among the bochers to the contrary, apon the peyne of C s., and that eu*e*ry bocher that obeyth to any soche Caue or ordenaunce[4] by the Masturs or by the Crafte so made he to paye att eu*e*ry defawte xx s., halffe to [the] sheryffes and halffe to the Comen box.

"Bochers" to kill when they like notwithstanding any cave to the contrary.

[Ordained] that no bruer in this Citte bruve any all w*ith* hoppis, [or 20s. fine each time, half to the sheriffs, half to the common box.]

"Brewers" not to use hops.

[Ordained] that and yff the Scheryffes do not gether all the merseamentes that byn delyu*e*ryd vnto them w*ith*-in vj wekes aftur the stretes delyu*e*ryd to ther handes, that then M*aister* Meyer for the yere beyng schall [take] the seyd strettes owt of the Scheryffes handes & delyu*e*r them to the Comen s*e*rgeant & he to gether them to the vse of the Comen box.

"Shireffes to gather the streets within 6 weekes, or else to be gathered by serjant."

Also hyt is agreyd (etc.) that no shomaker nor Correer nor no man ffor them schall by no Talo w*ith*in the Cytte, on-les he by hyt betwene the ffeastes of Mydsom*e*r & Lammas, apon peyne att eu*e*ry defavte a C s. to be leveyd halffe to the scheryffes & halffe to the Comen box.

"Shomakers for talow."

[5][Inacted] that [no] Tann*e*r schall sell lether onles hit be

Tanners not to sell

[1] deletions follow. [2] interlined. [3] leaf 335, back.
[4] The mark over "n" here resembles a*u* redundant.
[5] See p. 681.

"Lether" unless it be sealed.

sealyd *with* the sealle aforseyde, and ffor eu*er*e hyde otherwysse solde the seller to fforfet xl d. and the byer other xl d. to the vse of the Comen box.

"Corioures" not to curry unsealed leather.

Also that no Coreer *with*in this Citte Core any lether but soche as is seallyd *with* the seyde seall, apon peyne of fforfet for eu*er*y hyde soo Tanneyd xl d.

JULINES NETHERMILL, MAYOR, 1523.
EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Civitas Coventr*ie*." Apr. 21.

[1][V. f. p. before Jul. Nethermill, m., Ric. Wethers, Will. Tillett, b., Tuesday before S. George's day, 14 Hen. VIII.]

¶ Will. Wikame, Rob. Grene, Joh. Duddesbury, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Clerk, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Waren, Joh. Bonde, Tho. Banwell, Tho. Smyth, Hen. Wall, Tho. Astelyn, Ric. Burwey, Ric. Herryng, Will. Towres, Tho. Dodd, Joh. Cramp, Tho. Gopsill, Joh. Eyburne, Geo. Philips, Will. Banwell, Ric. Povie, Tho. Napton, Tho. Wilmer.

"Error in Cur*ia*."

[Enacted] that whosoeu*er* frome-hensforth doith sue eny wrytt of Error[2] or Certiorari[3] to remove eny recorde or pleynt out of the kynges Co*ur*t of this Cite shall pay for the allowaunce of the same writt [4]or Error or *cer*tiorar*i* the feez afore-tyme accustumed, and ou*er* & besides the same vj s. viij d. to the shireffes of the seid Citie for the tyme beyng etc.

Fees for the writ.

"Graund warr*ant*." [5]

[Enacted] that the shireffes of the Citie for the tyme beyng frome-hensfurth shall graunt no graund warraunt[5] to be executed upon eny Townesm*an* of this Citie w*ith*out license & assent of M*aister* Meire for the tyme beyng etc.

[6]"No speciall Capias without mayor and sheriffs." [6]

[Enacted] that no dweller *with*in this Citie shall comen-lie sell or retaill eny man*er* of flesshe for vitaill *with*in this Citie oneles he be of the Crafte of bochers or elles

Only "bochers" are allowed to sell meat,

[1] leaf 336, back. Scribe I. Marginal notes are now usually in this scribe's hand.

[2] A writ to procure the reversal of a judgment on the ground of error (*N. E. D.*).

[3] A writ from a superior to an inferior court to call up for trial the record of the latter upon the complaint of a party that he has not received justice or cannot have a fair trial there. The word *certiorari* (= to be certified) occurs in the writ. [4] (?) of.

[5] The term "grand warrant" is unknown to Sir F. Pollock and Prof. E. Jenks; the latter agrees to the suggestion that it may probably refer to the process of arrest on Capias, though the use of the word "grand" is unexplained. [6–6] A later hand.

brother to the same, vpon peyne who doith the contrarie to forfeit for euery defaute x s; and that it shall be laufull for the shireffes of the seid Citie for the tyme beyng havyng knowlege & prove of the seid offendoures to arrest & imprisone theme in the comen gaoll vntill the haue payed the seyd forfeyture; and the same forfeiture to be distributed in thre partes, wherof oon to the Meire & the other twoo to the shireffes for the tyme beyng etc.

under pain of fine and imprisonment.

Item, forasmoche as Jas. Hobson & Ric. Niclyn, Bochers, with other haue taken vpon theme to be bounde to the Maisters of the Citie & serue & fynde all the Citie sufficient Candle of the price of peny & farthyng the pounde & xiij li. to the dosyne for the space of vij yeires next ensuyng, it is therfor enacted at this lete that no persones (*sic*) or personez of the Crafte of bochers within this Citie shall bargeyn or sell eny Talowe to eny persone or persones within this Citie or without, but onelie to the seid Jas. Hobsone & Ric. Niclyne & other foure mene by the same James & Richard to be named & assigned, [or 40s. fine to be levied by the sheriffs, half to the use of the sheriffs and half to the common box.]

"Candelles"

to be supplied by six persons only at 1½*d.* per lb.

[1] Item, where-as by auctorite of dyuers letes holden in tymes past within this Citie the Craftes of smythes & Goldsmythes be vnite & knyt together in one with dyuers other occupacions Joyntlie to be contributories to all fynes & imposicions amonges the seid occupacions to be payed & levied, and to be present at all assembles as mariages, burialles, or otherwise whatsoeuer they be, by theme accustomed to be kept & maynteyned, as by ther priuate ordinaunces affirmed by the seid leetes[2] pleynlie it may appere; betwene whome of lait dyuers controuersies & debates haue Risen & bene moved for the nonperfourmaunce of the same to the greit Inquietnes of Maister Meire & the Counsell of the Citie & to the hurt & hynderaunce of the seid occupacions: It is therfor at this leet establisshed & enacted in avoidyng of like troublez hereafter to ensue that the seid Craft of Goldsmythes frome

The "Smythes & Goldsmythes"

have fallen to disputing among themselves.

The goldsmiths are

[1] leaf 337.

[2] For inspection of craft rules by the officers and council see p. 32. No copy of the smiths' rules has hitherto appeared in the Leet Book; but see those of the cappers, pp. 572-4.

ordered to pay their fines as usual,

hensfurthe shall not onelie for ther p*ar*tes pay all suche fynes & imposic*i*ons due & accustomed by theme or eny of theme to be levied & payed for brekyng of eny of the seid ordina*u*nces, but also they shall at all tymes herafter be

and attend assemblies.

p*re*sent at all Mariag*es*, burielle*s* & other assembles whatsoev*er* they be, likewise as eny of the other occupac*i*ons to theme vnite & knyt doo accustume theme to keip accordyng to ther seid ordina*u*nces maid & establisshed & affirmed, as is aforseid, vpon the peyne to ryne[1] in the forfeyture of the penalties of the same, and also to abide further punyshement of M*ai*ster Meire & the Councell of the seid Citie etc.

"Ciuitas Couentrie."

[[2] V. f. p. held before Jul. Nethermill, m., Ric. Wethers, Will. Tillett, b., (cetera desunt).]

THO. BANWELL, MAYOR, 1524.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Jan. 25, 1524.

[[3] Election of officers.]

[M*ag*ister[4] Ric. M*ar*ler, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Clerke, Joh. Humfrey, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Tho. Astlelene, Tho. Wilmer, Hen. P*er*kyns, Ric. Burwey, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Wales, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hick*es*, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Ric. Rise, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Will. Tillett, [5] Chr. Mereman, Geo. Philips, Tho. Ward, Joh. Hill.[5]]

Officers.

[m. Tho. Banwell,[6] drap*er*; rec. Rad. Swillyngton; cor. Rob. Grene; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Rob. Kyrvyn, Tho. Gardenou*r*; w. Hen. Kylby, Sim. P*ar*ker; mace, Will. Alene; crier, Rog. Fraby.]

LEETS.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Apr. 12.

[7] [V. f. p. held before Tho. Banwell, m., Tho. Wilmer, Tho. Spens*er*, b., Apr. 12, 15 Hen. VIII.]

¶ Tho. White, Ric. M*ar*ler, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Waren, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Julynus Nethermill, Tho. Astelen, Tho. Smyth, Hen. Wall, Hen. P*er*kyns,

[1] ? = run, *v.* p. 170. [2] leaf 337, back.
[3] leaf 338. The usual formula employed at the election concludes with the words "*secundum* antiqua*m* consuet*udinem* Ciu*itatis* p*redicte*" = according to the ancient custom of the said city.
[4] M*ag*ister before all names till note 5. [5–5] Untitled.
[6] Mag*istrum* prefixed. [7] leaf 338, back.

Ric. Heryng, Rog. Wales, Tho. Dodd, Joh. Crampe, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hickkes, Will. Towres, Ric. Rise, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Will. Tillett, Rob. Kirvin.

"Beggers" forbidden to beg in the churches during service.

[1] In primis, it is enacted (etc.) that no begger of this Citie fromehensfurthe shall begge within the two parishe Churches of this Citie in the tyme of Goddes seruice vsed ther, vpon peyn to be punysshed by imprisonment of the stokkes by the space of a day & a nyght; and that ther shal-be on certeyn persone assigned by the Meire for the tyme beynge to viewe & execute yeirelie the seid acte.

[2] "Anno Henry 8. 9 foll. 322." [2]

The previous act concerning "Clothmakyng" to be put into effect.

Item, it is enacted that the acte concernyng Clothemakyng maid in the tyme of *Maister* Burwey, Meire of this Citie, shall stande & be in effecte & duelie executed frome-hensfourthe accordyng to the tenour of the seid acte; and for thexecucion of the same acte ther be now elected, as serchers for true weyvyng, Will. Dale & Owyne Blakmere, weivers, and for true walkyng, Joh. Grene & Rauf Worseley, walkers.

A sealer appointed.

Item, ther is elected Hen. Braynesforde, draper, to be sealer of Clothe with the seale of this Citie, and to haue for his ffee of euery clothe sealed j d.

A searcher of wool.

Item, ther is elected Tho. Boithe as sercher of wolles sold within this Citie.

No limit to "prentises & Journemen."

Item, it is enacted that euery Craftes-mane within this Citie shall fromehensfurthe take as meny prentises & Journemen as they woll accordyng to the liberties of this Citie, eny acte or caue tofore maid to the contrary notwithstandyng.[3]

"Journeymen" to bring in their rules.

[Enacted] that all the Journemen of euery Crafte in this Citie shall brynge in & deliuer ther bokes of ther Caues & actes to *Maister* Meire at suche tyme as he woll appoynt or warne theme, vpon peyne of imprisonement.[4]

"Shomakers & Tanners."

[5] [Enacted] that so longe as the Crafte of Shomakers fynde & keip ther preist they shall reteyne & keipe in ther handes to ther owne vse yeirelie the Marke of money, which thei were wont to pay yierelie by acte of leete to the Crafte of Tanners. Prouided alweyes that the seid

[1] On poor relief see *Victoria County Hist. Warw.*, II, pp. 164 *sqq.*
[2–2] See above, p. 656. A much later hand.
[3] See the cappers' rules, p. 573.
[4] See Introduction. [5] leaf 339.

Craft of Shomakers shall pay vnto the seid Tanners at Corpus *Christi* tide next ensuyng vj s. viij d.

"Ale wyves." [Enacted] that all the ale wyves & tiplers of this Citie shall sell ther ale by measures sealed, accordyng to the acte maid in the tyme of *Maister* Wikame,[1] Meire, [or 3s. 4d. fine each time to the sheriffs.]

"Ciuitas Coventrie." Sept. 27. [2][V. f. p. held on Tuesday before Michaelmas, 16 Hen. VIII.]

Jury. ¶ [*Magister* Tho. White,[3] Ric. *Marler*, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Waren, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Jul. Nethermill, Tho. Astelen, Hen. Wall, Nic. Heynes, Hen. *Perkyns*, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Wales, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hick*es*, Tho. Dodd, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Ric. Rice, Tho. Gopsill, Rob. Kyrvyn,[4] Tho. Gardeno*ur*,[4] Hum. Moseley.[4]

Sheriffs. [Will. Smyth, Tho. Trussell.]

"Rauf Swillyngton, Recorder," who took oath to dwell in the city half the year, Wher-as Rauff Swillyngton, Recorder of this Citie, tyme of his admission to the office of Recorder, p*ro*mysed by his corp*o*rall othe to be resident & demurraunt[5] w*ith*in this Citie, the on half of the yeir, or the moost p*ar*t therof,

except in times of plague, except & savyng suche tymes as the greit sekenes[6] shulde reign within the Citie, and except such tymes as he shuld be conu*er*saunt at London. It is now ordeyned by auctorite of this lete by thadvice of the Meire, aldermen & the Comens of this Citie ther assembled, that forasmoche as the seid Rauf is nowe gen*er*all attourney to *our* souer*eig*n lorde, the kynge,[7] be nowe by the seid auctorite

is released from this obligation. exon*er*at, releassed, put at large & discharged of his seid othe hertofore maid in that behalf, and that the seid Rauf shal-be here at the ij gen*er*all Cessiones & great letes after Michelmas & Eister to be holden & ij dayes before & ij dayes after, or more or lesse, as the busynes for the Citie thene shall require, if the sekenes reign not in the Citie, or that he be occupied otherwise in the kynges busynes.

Weavers to have "for [8][Enacted] that the weivers of this Citie shall haue for

[1] *v.* p. 677. [2] leaf 339, back.
[3] All names save the last three preceded by *Magister*.
[4] Untitled. [5] = dwelling, abiding.
[6] The sweating sickness was very rife in 1517; the plague in 1521. See Traill, *Soc. England*, III, 145, 257.
[7] Supply "he." [8] leaf 340.

the weyvyng of eu*e*ry Cloithe, to the makyng wherof goithe & is putt $\overset{xx}{\text{iiij}}$ & viij li. of woll or more to the nombre of $\overset{xx}{\text{iiij}}$ li. & xvj, v s. for the weyvyng of eu*e*ry such Clothe, and if the seid Cloithe conteyn aboue the seid nombre Then the weyvyng to be payed for as the parties Cane agre, and if the Cloith conteyn vnder the seid nombre then the oner to pay for weyvyng but iiij s. vj d. And if the Clothe be maid of restes or grene woll[1] then to pay as the pa*r*ties cane agree ; and the payment to be maid in redie money & not in wares, as it is wont to be. And who refuseth thus to do & so p*r*oued befor M*aister* Meire to forfett for eu*e*ry said defaut iij s. iiij d. to be levied by the se*r*chars of the seid Craft of weyvers, w*ith* an officer to theme appoynted by the seid Meire, to the vse of the co*m*en box.

weyvyng of Clothes," to which from 88 to 96 lbs. of wool go, 5s.,

and for those of less weight, 4s. 6d.

The payment is to be in ready money, not truck wages.

[Enacted] that eu*e*ry Clothier within this Citie shall pay for walkyng of eu*e*ry Cloithe of Grene woll or midle woll iij s. iiij d., and for eu*e*ry Cloith of fyne woll as the Clothier & the walker can agre, and that the Clothier do pay therfor in redie money & not in wares [or 3s. 4d. each time to the common box.]

Clothier to

pay "for walkyng of Clothes" 3s. 4d.

[No country tanner to buy beast hides, raw or untanned, upon the market day or any other day before 12 o'clock,[2] or 6s. 8d. fine, to be levied on the butcher, or other person selling the same, to the common box.]

"Tanners."

[Enacted] that if eny p*e*rson of this Citie beyng no bocher do kyll eny beiff*es*, Mottons, veilles, porkett*es*, or lambes w*ith*in this Citie, [he] shall not retayll eny of the seid vitall by lesse porc*i*on then the half or the quarter [or 6s. 8d. fine each time to the common box.]

Against "retaillyng of vitayll."

NIC. HEYNES, MAYOR, 1525.

[3][Election of officers before Tho. Banwell, m., Tho. Wilmer,[4] Tho. Spens*e*r,[4] b., on the feast of the Conversion of S. Paul, 16 Hen. VIII . . . cetera desunt.]

Jan. 25, 1525.

[1] Evidently wool of inferior quality : but whether discoloured or obtained from a poor fleece I do not know. For payments cf. p. 660.

[2] MS. "the owre of xii of the Cloke." [3] leaf 341.

[4] These bailiffs' and sheriffs' names are put in error, see above, p. 688, and below, p. 690.

EASTER LEETS.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Apr. 27.

[V. f. p. held before Nic. Heynes, m., Will. Smyth,[1] Tho. Trussell,[1] b., on Thursday after S. Mark's day, 17 Hen. VIII.]

[¶ Jul. Nethermyll, *Magister*[2] Ric. Marler, Ric. Hassall, Joh. Humfrey, Will. Wicame, Tho. Whit, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Smyth, Hen. Wall, Tho. Astelen, Hen. Perkyns, Rog. Wales, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hickes, Tho. Dod, Will. Towres, Ric. Rise, Tho. Spenser, Tho. Gopsill, [3]Hen. Burne, Will. Ridyng, Cristofer Wadde, Tho. Burdon, Ric. Townesend.]

"For hunters & hawkers."

Wher-as in tyme past dyuers & meny of the Inhabitantes within this Citie disposed to Idlenes not havyng xl s. of freholde by yeire inordinatlie haue vsed to hawke & to hunt, kepyng haukes, greyhoundes & houndes, spanielles, ferettes, heyes,[4] Targes,[5] & other engennes, wherby all maner of fowles & beastes of waren & of chace be excessyvelie taken & distroyed, not ferying the penalties of dyuers & meny good estatutes maid by auctorite of parliament for the punyshement of the same, wherby moche idlenes & pouertie is greatelie encreassed within this Citie. It is therfor establisshed (etc.) that no persone inhabited within this Citie ner the libertiez of the same fromehensfurth do presume to keip eny haukes, greyhoundes, or houndes, ferettes, hayes, Targes or eny other engennes, ner do presume to hunt or to hauke with the same, oneles they may dispend xl s. of frehold by yeire, vpon the peyne to rone in suche penalties as be expressed in the seid estatutes and that to pay for euery tyme so offendyng vj s. viij d. to be levied by the shireffes, the on half to ther owne vse and the other half to the Comen box of the Citie etc.

The use of nets and other engines t (take game forbidden

except in the case of 40*s.* freeholders.

[6]Item, wher-as by auctoritie of lete holden within this Citie in the tyme of Maister Burwey,[7] Meire of the same, it was ordeyned that it shuld be lawfull to the inhabitauntes & apprentices of this Citie & to estraungers to

"Prentices & other

[1] See p. 689, note 4. [2] Title repeated until note 3. [3] Untitled.
[4] A net used particularly to catch rabbits. *N. E. D. s. v.* hay.
[5] This word is unknown to Dr. Hen. Bradley and the compilers of the *New English Dictionary* in any sense connected with sport.
[6] leaf 342. [7] *v.* p. 655.

inhabite & to sett vp ther craft or facultie in this Citie, what Craft or facultie so euer they were of, paying to the Maisters of the same Crafte x s. for fyne, that is to say, at the ende of the first yeire after ther settyng vp ther seid Crafte v s., and at the ende of the first yeire after that other v s.; ffor-asmoche as it is now compleyned & enfourmed[1] at this lete that meney of the seid persons, so settyng vp ther craftes, do depart the Citie before thende of the seid first yeire, & before eny peny of the seid fyne of tene shelynges be payed in fourme aforseid: It is therfor enacted at this present lete that euery persone that haith beene full prentise within this Citie, & doithe[2] sett vp his occupacion or Craft within the same, shall pay frome-hensfurth at ther furst settyng vp ther seid Craft to the Maisters of the Craft iij s. iiij d., and at the ende of the first yeire of ther occupying other iij s. iiij d. And that euery estraunger that so shall sett vp his Craft within the seid Citie shall pay in like maner x s. to the Maisters of his Craft as befor is seyed.[3] And that euery persone that so herafter shall sett vp his occupacion within this Citie shall fynde ij sufficient suerties to be bounde vnto the Maister of the Craft for payment of the seid fyne. And that the same persone so settyng vp his Craft shall be obedient vnto all ordinaunces & estatutes of his occupacion etc.

settyng vp ther occupacions"

to pay their fines, half on setting up, and half at the end of the first year,

and to find security.

JOH. HUMFREY, MAYOR, 1525.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

[4] ¶ [V. f. p. held before Joh. Humfrey,[5] m., Will. Smyth, Tho. Trussell, b., on Tuesday after S. Dionysius' day, 17 Hen. VIII.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Oct. 10.

[*Magister* Jul. Nethermyll, Ric. Hassall,[6] Tho. Waren, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Will. Whit, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Smyth, Hen. Wall, Tho. Astelen, Hen. Perkyns, Rog. Wales, Will. Dawsen, Joh. Hickes, Joh.

Jury.

[1] = to lay information or complaint. A curious impersonal use of the verb.
[2] Characteristic of this scribe.
[3] *i.e.* half at setting up, and half at the end of the first year.
[4] leaf 343, back. [5] He served out Heynes' year. See p. 692.
[6] All save the last three are called "*Magister*."

Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Wylmer, Tho. Spens*er*, Will. Rydyng,[1] Tho. Burdon,[1] Humf. Moseley.[1]]

Sheriffs.

[Ric. Townesend, Skynn*er*, Hugh Lawton, Capp*er*.]

"For thellec-cion of Constables."

[Enacted] that eu*er*y alderman of this Citie yeirelie frome-hensfurth w*ith*-in iij or iiij [2] dayes [2] after Michelmas lett shall elect & chose onest & well ruled p*er*sones w*ith*in his warde to be constables, and eu*er*y of the seid aldermen to s*er*tifie the names of the seid Constables vnto the Shireffes for the tyme beyng in wrytyng, and [3] the seid Shireffes to swere the same p*er*sones in the office of Constables etc.

"For then-closyng of Comens."

[Enacted] that all such co*m*en groundes as haue bene latelie inclosed about this Citie shall fromehensfurth bee Comen as they haue bene vsed in auncient tyme & no more to be enclosed, accordyng to the ententes & myndes of the xlviij Mene appoynted for the resonyng of the same so that the kynges grace & his Councell be contented to affirme the same.[4]

"For drying of malt."

[Enacted that no person dry any malt with straw within this city, or 20s. fine each time to be levied by the sheriffs to their own use.]

HEN. WALL, MAYOR, 1526.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." May 1.

[5] [V. f. p. held before Hen. Wall, m., Ric. Townesende, Hugo Lawton, b., on Tuesday SS. Philip and James, 18 Hen. VIII.]

[M*agister* Tho. Banwell, Ric. Hassall,[6] Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Warene, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Tho. White, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Astelen, Ric. Herryng, Hen. P*er*kyns, Rog. Wales, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hickes, Will. Towres,

[1] Untitled. [2–2] repeated. [3] deletions follow.

[4] *v.* p. 679. The commons had been enclosed for corn sowing in time of dearth. This order was the sequel of a rising which took place on "Ill Lammas Day," when "the Commons of Coventre rose & pulled down the gates and hedges of the grounds inclosed; and they that were in the Cittie shutt the Newgate against the Chamberlains and their Company. The Mayor was almost smothered in the Throng; he held with the Commons, for which he was carried as prisoner to London: he was put out of his office, and Mr. John Humphery served out his year." Harl. MS. 6388.

[5] leaf 344, back. [6] *Magister* prefixed. See p. 693, note 1.

Tho. Gopsill, Tho. Spens*er*,[1] Rob. Smyth, Ric. Ives, Will. Banwell, Tho. fforma*n*, Will. Roge*rs*, Rob. Kirvy*n*, Tho. Gardeno*ur*.]

"Journemen of Cappers" to keep their appointed hours.

[Enacted] that the Jo*ur*nemen of the Craft of Capp*ers* w*ith*in this Citie shall fromehensfurth keip ther owres & tymes in beyng at ther worke as is lymyt in an acte maid at a lete holden in the tyme of M*aister* Joh. Bonde, Meire,[2] vpon peyn to be abriged ther wages by ther Maisters accordyng to the tyme of ther absence.

"Carvers to be associat with peynters."

[Enacted] that all Carvers w*ith*in this Citie frome-hensfurth shal-be associat w*ith* the Craft of peynto*ures*, and that eue*ry* Carver shall pay yeirelie to the peynto*ures* towarde*s* the Charges of ther pagiaunt xij d. w*ith*out contradict*ion*, vpon peyn for eue*ry* defaut to forfett vj s. viij d. to the seid Craft of peynto*ures*, and that the seid Carvers frome-hensfurth shal-be dismyssed & discharged frome the Craft of Carpenters, and that Richard Tenwynter shall pay suche arrerages to the Carpenters as he oweth theme for the xij d. which he shuld haue payed theme yierelie in tymes past.[3] [4]

RIC. HERRYNG, MAYOR, 1527.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Jan. 25.

[5] [Election of officers.]

[M*agister* Joh. Bonde, Ric. M*arler*,[6] Ric. Hassall, Joh. Humfrey, Will. Wicame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Rog. Wales, Hen. Perkyns, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hicke*s*, Will. Towres, Ric. Rise, Tho. Wylmer, Tho. Spens*er*, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Will. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Hugh Lawton, [7] Rob. Smyth, Ric. Ives, Tho. Warde, Tho. Burdon.[7]]

Officers.

[m. [8] Ric. Heyryng, M*ercer*; rec. [8] Edm. Knyghteley ;[9] cor. Rob. Grene; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Will. Herdie, Barbo*ur*, Ric. Sewall, jun., Grasier; w. Tho. Herryng,

[1] This name and those that follow are untitled.
[2] 1520 *v.* p. 673.
[3] "Item" follows. The rest is wanting.
[4] An imperfect heading of the next Leet is on leaf 345.
[5] leaf 346. [6] *Magister* prefixed to names preceding note 7.
[7–7] Untitled. [8] Mag*istrum* prefixed.
[9] On the Knightleys of Fawsley *v.* Whitley, *Parl. Representation of Coventry*, p. 36.

draper, Will. Saunders, Capper; mace, Will. Alene; crier, Joh. Weyt.]

EASTER LEET.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." May 15.

[1][V. f. p. held before Ric. Herryng, m., Will. Banwell, Rog. Palmer, b., on Tuesday, May 15, 19 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister* Joh. Bonde,[2] Ric. Marler, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Waren, Tho. Gopsill,[3] Will. Wycame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Hen. Wethers, Rog. Wales, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Astelen,[4] Hen. Perkyns, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hickes, Will. Towres, Ric. Rice, Tho. Spenser, Will. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Will. Herdy,[5] Ric. Sewall.[5]]

"For sellyng of hides."

[Enacted that no bocher of this Citie shall sell eny beast hides which they kill on the Thurresday or Fryday to eny tanner of the Contrey before the houre of ix of the Cloke on the Saturday, vpon peyn to forfett for euery hide so solde iij s. iiij d. to be levied by the Sheriffes by distres to ther owne vse.

"Journemen of dyers"

[Enacted] also that the Journemen of diers of this Citie fromehensfurth shall make none assembles at weddynges, brotherhoddes or buryelles ne make eny Caues amonges theme, but shall vse themselfes as seruauntes & as no Craft or feliship, vpon peyn of Impresonement & to make suche fyne as shal-be assessed vpon theme by Maister Meire, & the justices of the peas of this Citie for the tyme beyng.

to be servants and not a fellowship.

"Ciuitas Couentrie."

[6][V. f. p. held . . .][7]

THO. DODD, MAYOR, 1528.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." May 11.

[8][V. f. p. held before Tho. Dodd, m., Chr. Wade,[9] Rob. Kervyne, b., on Tuesday May 11, 20 Hen. VIII.]

[1] leaf 346, back.
[2] *Magister* prefixed to all names until note 5.
[3] Deleted, but "stet" interlined.
[4] A certain Richard Astelyn, haberdasher, was sent up to Queen Mary's Council in Nov. 1553 for seditious behaviour, see *Victoria County Hist. Warw.*, II, 33.
[5] Untitled.
[6] leaf 347, back.
[7] Rest wanting.
[8] leaf 349.
[9] A defaced, early Renaissance tomb (c. 1550) now in the Mercers' Chapel of S. Michael's is traditionally known as "Wade's tomb."

[*Magister* Hen. Wall,[1] Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Warene, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Will. Dawson, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hen. Perkyns, Joh. Crampe, Will. Towres, Ric. Rise, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Wilmer, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Will. Banwell, Rog. Palmer, Tho. Enderby.] Jury.

[2][Enacted] that for-asmoche as the Tanners of this Citie refuse to by hides of the bochers of this Citie of such reasonable price as the bochers of the Contre wolde, The seid bochers of this Citee frome-hensfurth shall haue ther libertie to sell ther hides to the Tanners of the Contrey, eny acte or actes heretofore to the contrarie maid not-withstandyng. Orders of leet. "Hides to be sold to the Tanners of the contrey."

[Enacted] that the Carpenters of this Citie shal-be restored to be a Crafte ageyne as-longe as they demeane themeself well in ther seid Craft; and that the Caruers of this Citie frome-hensfurthe that haue not be prenteses nor Maisters of the seid Carpenters Craft shal-be associat with the Craft of Peynters & not with the Carpenters. "Carpenters, Carvers & peynters."

[Enacted] that euery persone havyng wydraughtes[3] in ther Gardens adioynyng to the Whit freers wall shall take downe the seid widraughtes befor the feist of Seynt John Baptist next comyng, vpon peyne of vj s. viij d. for euery widraught standyng ther after the seid feist, to be levied by the Shireffes, to ther owne vse. "For widraughtes at the whit frer wall."

[4][V. f. p. held on Oct. 22, 20 Hen. VIII.] "Ciuitas Couentrie."

[*Magister*[5] Ric. Heryng, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Warene, Will. Wicame, Jul. Nethermyll, Hen. Wall, Will. Dawson, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Astelene, Rog. Wales, Joh. Hickes, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Ric. Rise, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Wilmer, Tho. Spenser, Will. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Will. Banwell, Rog. Palmer,[6] Tho. Enderby. Oct. 22. Jury.

[Jas. Gilbert, Will. Coton.] Sheriffs.

[Enacted] that no persone Inhabited within this Citie frome-hensfurth shall by eny Barley comyng towardes this

[1] *Magister* prefixed to every name.
[2] See above, p. 694.
[3] = a gutter, sewer, sink. *E.D.D.*
[4] leaf 349, back.
[5] Repeated before names until note 6.
[6] Untitled.

Citie to be solde before it come & be brought into the Citie, vpon peyn to forfeit for euery defaute fyue pounds; and that no persone abouesaid shall sell eny malt or other Greyne, but onelie to the comen bruers or bakers of this Citie, vpon like peyn to be levied at euery defaut by the shereffes at the Meires comaundement to ther owne vse.

"Bruers" to sell ale at 2s. a sextary,

and not above 3d. a gallon.

[Enacted] that no bruer or other inhabitant of this Citee fromehensfurth shall sell eny ale within this Citie by the Cester[1] aboue ij s.; and that they sell xiij galons to the Cester; and that they that sell ale by the galon or vnder sell not aboue the rait of iij d. a galone, [or 6s. 8d. fine each time to be levied by the sheriffs to their own use.]

THO. ASTELENE, MAYOR, 1529.

"Ciuitas Couentrie."

[2][Election of new officers [3] by the underwritten citizens and burgesses.]

Electors.

Magister Ric. Herryng,[4] Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Waren, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Julinus Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Tho. Wilmer, Joh. Hickes, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Ric. Rice, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spenser, Will. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Will. Banwell, Rob. Kyrvyn, Tho. Enderby,[5] Ric. Sewall,[5] Will. Norton.[5]]

Officers.

[m. [6] Tho. Astelene, Clothier; rec. Rog. Wigston; cor. Rob. Grene; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Ric. Niclyne, Gresier, Joh. Somerfelde, Brewer; w. Cristofer Wharton, skynner, Rob. Nicolles, Gresier; mace, Will. Alene; crier, Joh. West.

[They chose J. Bonde and Will. Wicame to aid and assist the aforesaid mayor in assessing the prices of victuals for this year following.]

Item eligerunt (*sic*) *Magistrum* Joh. Bonde & *Magistrum* Will. Wicame esse auxiliantes & assistentes *prefato* Maiori in assessando *precia* victualium *pro* hoc anno sequente.

[1] = sextary. [2] leaf 350.
[3] "per Ciues & Burgenses subscriptos"; these words follow the usual election formula.
[4] *Magister* prefixed to these names as far as note 5.
[5] Untitled. [6] *Magistrum* prefixed.

[1] EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Apr. 8.

[V. f. p. held before Tho. Astelene, m., Jas. Gilbert, Will. Coton, b., Apr. 8, 20 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister* [2] Ric. Herryng, Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Warene, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Wilmer, Will. Dawson, Tho. Smyth, Rog. Wales, Joh. Hickes, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Ric. Rise, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spenser, Will. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Will. Banwell.]

[3] "The Cappers to haue the weivers pagiaunt."

[Enacted] that the Crafte of Cappers of this Citie fromehensfurth shal-be [4] owners of the weyvers pagiaunt with all the implementes & apparell belongyng to the same pagiaunt; and that the seid Craft of weyvers shall yeirelie fromehensfurth pay vnto the *Maister* of the seid Crafte of Cappers vj s. viij d., and so the seid Craft of weyvers fromehensfurth to be clerlie discharged of ther seid pagiaunt & of ther name therof.

[3] "For bakyng of spiced cakes."

[Enacted] that no persone within this Citie shall bake or make eny spised Caks with butter to be sold within this Citie, but onelie suche persones as shal-be therunto assigned vnder *Maister* Meires licens for the tyme beyng [or 3s. 4d. fine to be levied by the sheriffs to their own use.]

[3] "For brekyng of heggis & cuttyng of woodes."

[Ordained] that euery person that hereafter shal-be founde or takyn Brekyng of hegges or cuttyng of mennes woodes or trees shal-be brought vnto the next stokkes within this Citie & ther to continue by the space of ij dayes with bred & water & non other sustinaunce, and if he or they be takyn the seconde tyme with like offence, then the same persone to be banysshed the Citie for euer.

[6] "For settyng of wadd."

[5] [Enacted] that it shal-be laufull for euery inhabitant of this Citie to occupie the Craft of dying & settyng of wadd fromehensfurth without lett or interupcion of the *Maister* or Journemen of the Craft of dyars & wadsetters

[1] leaf 350, back. [2] Prefixed throughout the list.
[3] In the same scribe's handwriting.
[4] MS. shabbe. [5] leaf 351.
[6] In the same hand. Set = prepare. Wadd = woad, a dye made from the plant *Isatis tinctoria*. For previous rules concerning dyers see p. 418.

Every inhabitant may be a dyer, so that he does not inveigle away the servants of other men.

of this Citie, so that they seid *per*sone or *per*sones so occupying the seid Craft of settyng of wadd do not enveigle or entice eny Jo*ur*neman or p*r*entice beyng reteyned in *ser*uice *with* eny dier *with*in this Citie out of his Maist*er*s *ser*uice *with*out thassent of his *Maister*, vpon peyne of x s. to be leuied to thuse of the Condite if it be laufullie proved befor *Maister* Meire & the Justices of the peas;

And if they cannot get local journeymen to work for them then they may chose others.

and if in case eny such *per*sone occupying the seid Craft of settyng of wadd cane geit[1] no[2] Jo*ur*nemen *with*in this Citie to work *with* theme, Thene it shal be laufull for theme, & eu*er*y of theme, to p*r*ouide theme, & eu*er*y of theme, *ser*uau*n*tes out of the Citie to worke *with* theme *with*in the Citie *with*out lett or ente*r*upc*i*on of the seid *Maister* or Jo*ur*nemen of diers.

"For makyng disceavable Colo*ur*es in Cloith."

[Enacted] that no *per*son or *per*sones inh*ab*itant *with*in this Citie shall fromehensfurth die or colo*ur* *with*in this Citie eny woll or Cloith *with* the new or disceivable Colo*ur*es of Must*er*s[3] or Medleys[4] latelie invented & begone in this Citie by a frenche-m*an*, vpon peyne to forfett for eu*er*y Cloithe or porc*i*ons of woll so disceavablie died or colo*ur*ed xx s., to be levied the on half therof to the shireffes of this Citie for the tyme beyng and the other half to the *Maister* kep*er* of the Condite to be bestowed on the Condite. And that the owners of all such Clothes as be now *with*in this Citie & died *with* the seid disceavable Colo*ur*es & sealed *with* the towne seall shall *with*in two dayes nowe next ensuying take of the seid seall frome the seid Clothes in avoydyng the gret sclander that myght happen to this Citie by reason of the p*r*emissez, vpon peyne to forfett for eu*er*y Cloith so sealed iij s. iiij d. to be leuyed & bestowed in fo*ur*me aforseid.

The town seal to be removed from cloth dyed with musters.

[5] [V. f. p. held on Oct. 12, 21 Hen. VIII.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie."

Oct. 12, 1529.

Jury.

[*Magister* Ric. Herryng,[6] Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Waren, Will. Wicame, Hen. Wall, Tho. Wilmer, Tho. Smyth,[6]

[1] Indistinct. [2] deletions.

[3] *Muster*, short for musterdevillers. *N. E. D.* (see above, p. 283), but an example given seems to refer not to the material but to colours. 1549, Act 3 and 4 Edw. VI, c. 2, § 1, Russetes, Musters, Marbles, Grayes . . and such lyk colors.

[4] = of a mixed colour. [5] leaf 351, back.

[6–6] *Magister* prefixed to these names.

[1]Rog. Wales, Will. Dawson, Joh. Hick*es*, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Ric. Rise, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spens*er*, Will. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Will. Banwell,[1] Rob. Kirvyn,[2] Ric. Niclyne,[2] Joh. Som*er*land,[2] Joh. Jett.[2]]

Sheriffs.

[Rob. Seny, dier, Tho. Gardeno*ur*, Baker.]

"Reives, Cowp*er*," sells deceitfully made wares;

Item, wheras on Tho. Reives of Berkeswell, wekelie selleth Cowp*er*s wares w*ith*in this Citie beyng vnlawfull stuff & disceavablie maid havyng a shope at the Spicers Stoke,[3] wherin all his wares do lie; which Thomas beireth no man*er* of Charges w*ith* the Craft of Cowp*er*s of this Citie; Wherfor it is enacted that the seid Reives shall not occupie eny shop w*ith*in this Citie oneles he agre w*ith* the Cowp*er*s of this Citie; and it is further p*ro*uided that the seid Cowp*er*s shall not take for eny agrement or fyne of the seid Reives aboue ij s. a yeire etc.

and pays nothing to the coopers' craft;

he is ordered to pay 2*s*. a year.

[Enacted] that no p*er*sone that occupieth the Craft of a Tiler w*ith*in this Citie shall fromehensfurth occupie or vse the Crafte of a plomn*er* or Soderyng, vpon the peyne to forfeit for eu*er*y defaut iij s. iiij d.

"No Tyler to occupie the Craft of a plummer."

[Enacted] that the Craft of Capp*er*s of this Citie shall pay yeirelie fromehensfurth to the Craft of Gurdelers xiij s. iiij d., and that the Craft of Walkers shal-be fromehensfurth discharged of all paym*en*t*es* to the Craft & feliship of Girdelers & clerelie dismyssed frome the seid Craft; and that the seid Craft of Walkers shall pay yeirelie a Sevennyght before Corpus *Christi* day to the Crafte of Weyvers tene shelyng*es* in Consideraci*on* of ther gret Charges etc.

"Cappers" pay to "Girdelers";

and "walkers" leave girdlers,

and pay to "weyuers."

[4]ffor-asmoche as the Citizyns & Inh*ab*itaunt*es* of this Citie & also foreners & estraungers beyng pleyntiff*es* in acc*i*ons p*er*sonell*es* sued w*ith*in the kynge*s* Court in this Citie be by long tyme tracted[5] & delayed frome ther dett*es* & right*es* by reason of the long & dilatorie course & custome of the same Court: for remedie & reformaci*on* wherof Itt is enacted, ordeyned & establisshed (etc.) that if the

"For sute of accions in the Courte."

Remedy against protracted suits.

[1–1] *Magister* prefixed to these names. [2] Untitled.
[3] To the south of Butcher Row, to which it runs at right angles.
[4] leaf 352.
[5] = drawn out, protracted. On the "tedious forbearance" of mediæval law see Pollock and Maitland, II, 591–2.

defendaunt in eny accion personell sued in this Court do not appere vppon the first distresse serued & returned that thene he shall lesse the issues[1] returned and a Capias[2] awarded for his body ageynst the next Court; and if the pleyntif in eny suche accion do not sue his distresse[3] before the defendaunt be foure Court dayes Called in the distresse roll that then the seid pleyntif shal-be non-suyt.

WILL. DAWSON, MAYOR, 1530.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Jan. 25.

[4] ¶ [Election of officers.]

[*Magister* Tho. Dodd,[5] Joh. Humfrey, Tho. Waren, Will. Wicame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Tho. Wethers, Tho. Spenser, Will. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Will. Banwell, Rog. Palmer, Ric. Niclyn, Joh. Somerfeld, Tho. Burdon,[6] Joh. Jett,[6] Joh. Saunders,[6] Geo. Philips.[6]]

Officers.

[Will. Dawson,[7] draper; rec. Rog. Wigston,[8] cor. Rob. Grene; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Hug. Gregory, whittawer, Rad. Dale, Gresier; w. Ric. Ley, Mercer, Cuthbert Joynour, draper; mace, Will. Alen; crier, Joh. West.]

DEATH OF THE MAYOR.

Apr. 7.

Mem. this meire supplied the rome of Meire frome the feist of the Purificion of our ladie in the yeire aforseid vnto the vijth day of Aprile thene next folowyng, by which tyme he gouerned this Citie well & worshipfull and then he departed this worlde.

On whose soule Jhesu haue mercy.

On whose soul Jesus have mercy!

ROG. WALES, MAYOR, 1530.

Apr. 13.

[9] [Election of a new mayor and coroner on Wednesday, April 13, 21 Hen. VIII, before Rog. Wigston, rec., Rob.

[1] *i. e.* the profits of the distress seized by the sheriff in order to secure his appearance at court.
[2] A writ directing the officer to seize the person of the defendant.
[3] *i. e.* set the law in motion.
[4] leaf 352, back. [5] *Magister* prefixed to all names until note 6.
[6] Untitled. [7] Magister prefixed.
[8] The Wigstons were a Leicestershire family. Roger represented the city in parliament 1529–36. Whitley, *Representation of Coventry*, 37. [9] leaf 353.

Seny and Tho. Gardenour, b., by the citizens and burgesses underwritten.]

[*Magister* Tho. Dodd,[1] Joh. Humfrey, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Astelen, Ric. Rise, Joh. Crampe, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spenser, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Will. Banwell, Rog. Palmer, Rob. Kyrvyn, [2]Hug. Gregory, [2]Rad. Dale, [2]Ric. Ley, [2]Joh. Jett.] Electors.

[m. Rog. Wales, Irenmonger, "until the next feast of the Conversion of S. Paul"; cor. Tho. Gregory] vsque proximam letam hic post festum Pasche proximo futurum tenendam, ea intencione quod predictus Thomas exhibeat prefato nouo Maiori Juramentum suum quia Rob. Grene absentus est[3] etc. Officers. A temporary coroner is chosen to serve until the next leet to be held here after Easter for the purpose of tendering the oath to the new mayor because Rob. Grene is absent.[3]

LEETS.

[4][V. f. p. held before Rog. Wales, m., Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardenour, b., on Tuesday the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, 22 Hen. VIII.] Sept. 14.

[*Magister* Tho. Dodd,[5] Joh. Humfrey, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Astelen, Ric. Rise, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spenser, Will. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Hug. Lawton, Will. Banwell, Rog. Palmer, Jas. Gilbert, Will. Coton, [6]Rad. Dale.] Jury.

[Who elected Rob. Grene, gentleman, coroner, and Tho. Banwell and Ric. Herryng to aid and assist the aforesaid mayor in assessing the price of victuals.]

Qui Eligerunt (*sic*) Rob. Grene, generosum in officium Coronatoris huius Ciuitatis: Et Tho. Banwell & Ric. Herryng esse assistentes & auxiliantes prefato Maiori in assessando precia victualium.

Item, wher-as the Craft of Cappers of this Citie haue vsed to pay yeirelie vnto the Craft of Girdelers vj s. viij d. towardes ther pagiaunt: Itt is now enacted that the seid "A discharge of vj s. viij d. paid by the Cappers to the Girdelers."

[1] *Magister* prefixed until note 2. [2] Untitled.
[3] The mayor had to take his oath before the coroner. Green was reinstated in his office at the ensuing leet..
[4] leaf 353, back.
[5] *Magister* prefixed to all names until the next note.
[6] Untitled.

Craft of Cappers fromehensfurth for certeyn consideracions alleged shall not pay the seid vj s. viij d. in fourme aforseid.

"No Tyler to occupie the Craft of a plummer."

Item, it is enacted that no persone of this Citie occupieng or vsyng the Misterie & Craft of plummers shall fromehensfurth vse the Craft of a Tyler, ner no Tyler to vse the Craft of a plummer, vpon peyn to forfett for euery defaut contrarie to this present acte vj s. viij d. to be leuyed, immediatlie vpon the seid offence commytted, by the Shireffes for the tyme beyng; the on half of the same to ther owne vse, & the other half to the vse of the Maister or Maisters of the Craft to whome the seid offence is doon contrarie to this acte.

"For flokkyng of Cappes."

[1] Item, it is enacted that no persone or persones of the Crafte of Cappers of this Citie shall dresse eny Cappes with flokkes [2] in desseit of the people, vpon peyn to forfett for euery Capp so disceavablie dressed & flokked xij d. to be leuyed by the Shireffes of the Citie for the tyme beyng, the on half to thuse of the seid Shireffes & the other half to thuse of the Maisterz of the seid Craft of Cappers.

"Carvers to be associat with peynters."

[Enacted] that such persones as fromehensfurth woll onelie vse & occupie the Craft of Carvers shal-be contributories [3]to the Craft[3] of peynters & not to the Craft of Carpenters.

"For the Redd-diche."

Item, it is also enacted that the Chamberleyns of this Citie for the tyme beyng fromehensfurth shall ouerse & commaunde euery man havyng eny landes or tenementes, Gardens or vake [4] groundes adioynyng on bothe sydes the Red-diche shall Cast,[5] clense & make cleyne the seid diche so fare as ther grounde doith extend yeirelie before the feist of Pentecost, vpon peyne of euery defaut iij s. iiij d. to be leuyed by the Shireffes to ther owne vse; and further it is enacted that ther shal-be an able persone assigned by Maister Meire & his brethern, which shall quarterlie clense the seid diche in all other places defectyue, & he to haue for his labour yeirelie iiij s. to be paid by the Chamberleyns for the tyme beyng.

It is to be cleansed every quarter.

[1] leaf 354. [2] *i. e.* to powder with flock or cloth-shearings.
[3—3] Repeated. [4] = vacant, unoccupied.
[5] = to dig or clear out.

"Chaundelers."

[Enacted] that no *per*sone shall occupie the Craft of a Chaundeler *with*in this Citie but such as shal-be[1] admytted by *Maister* Meire for the tyme beyng & his brethern; and that no Craftesman or housholder of this Citie shall by eny more talow *with*in this Citie then shall suffice or *ser*ue his housholde for his owne expensez, vpon peyn to forfeit vj s. viij d. to be levied by the Shireffes for the tyme beyng to ther owne vse; and also that *Maister* Meire for the tyme beying shall yeirelie elect & chose ij kepers which shall haue auctoritie to entre into eu*er*y chaundelers house & wey ther Candelles, to thentent the people be not disceaved, and to try whether the Stuff be good & laufull or not.

"Mayor" to appoint two keepers "to weigh their Candles."[2]

"Chaundelers" to attend at the summons of the keepers of the craft.

[3][Ordained] that eu*er*y *per*sone that occupieth the Craft of Chaundeler *with*in this Citie shal-be redie to come to the kep*er*s of the seid occupac*i*on at ther warnyng or com*m*aundement at an houre appoynted at all com*m*onicac*i*ons & metynges of the seid Craft for the Co*m*en welth of this Citie, vpon peyne of xij d. for eu*er*y defaut to be leuyed to thuse of the seid Crafte.

"Chaundelers" and fishmongers are forbidden to sell candles outside the city.

[Ordained] that no Chaundeler ne fishemong*er*,[4] ner non other *per*sone or *per*sones for theme or in ther name, fromehensfurth shall Carie eny Candelles to be sold out of this Citie in eny Markett or faire, vpon peyne to forfett for eu*er*y defaut xx s., the on half therof to *Maister* Meire for the tyme beyng, & the other half to be divided betwene the Shireffes, & the kep*er*s of the seid Craft of Chaunders (*sic*) for the yiere beyng, *with*out eny further deley.

"Chaundelers" between Good-tide and Midsummer to pay for tallow the price fixed by the mayor and keepers;

[Ordained] that no Chaundeler, ner other *per*sone that maketh eny Candell to sell, shall by eny talowe, ner make eny bargeyne *with* eny bocher of this Citie for talowe betwene Guttyde[5] & Midsomer, but onelie of such p*r*ice as shal-be lymytt by *Maister* Meire & his assistaunce & the kep*er*s of the seid Craft of Chaundelers, vpon peyn of xiij s. iiij d. to be payed half therof to the shireffes for the tyme beyng & the other half to the kep*er*s of the seid

[1] MS. shabe.
[2] The gloss as written in the MS. is erroneous. The mayor did not personally weigh the candles. The handwriting is late.
[3] leaf 354, back. [4] See p. 632.
[5] Good-tide Monday is the day before Shrove Tuesday.

and between Lammas and Michaelmas the craft by the advice of the mayor and justices to fix the price of candles.

Craft; and that the kepers of the seid Craft of Chaundelers euery yeire betwene Lammas & Michelmas shall Call the Craft to-gither, & by the aduice of *Maister* Meire & the Justices of the peace shall sett such price of Talowe as shal-be thought thene moost convenient by ther discrecions for the eas of the Comenaltie; and that euery persone that selleth Candell & will not keip the price of Candell so lymyt & assessed shall forfett for euery defaut x s., that is to say, vj s. viij d. to the Shireffes & iij s. iiij d. to the kepers of the seid Craft; prouided alwey that if ther happen a gret Scarsenes of Talowe then the seid kepers by thaduise of *Maister* Meire & his assistence after Cristenmas shall sett another price of Candelles, so that the Citie may be serued better cheipe[1] then other townes herabout.

"Ciuitas Couentrie."

[2] [V. f. p. held on Tuesday, Oct. 11, 22 Hen. VIII.]

Magister[3] Tho. Dodd, Joh. Humfrey, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Astelen, Ric. Rise, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Wilmer, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Will. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Will. Banwell, Rog. Palmer, Chris. Wadd, Jas. Gilbert, Will. Coton.]

Sheriffs.

[Joh. Jett, Mercer, Sim. Parker, Grasier.]

"Rob. Perkyns" to continue his occupation of dyeing in spite of the craft of dyers.

[Ordained] for dyuers Consideracions that Rob. Perkyns shall haue fre libertie to worke in his occupacion of dyyng with Tho. Burdon without interupcion of eny persone of[4] or persones of the seid Craft of dyers & without daunger of eny penaltie of[4] or forfett by reason of eny acte or estatute hertofor to the contrarie maid.[5]

Resident craftsmen only to be employed

"for thykkyng of Cappes & Cloith."

[Enacted] that no Citizene or inhabitaunt of this Citie after the feist of Cristenmas next comyng shall deliuer or cause to be deliuered eny Cappes or wollene Cloithe to be Thikked to eny walker but onelie suche as that be thene inhabited within this Citie or the Suburbes of the same,[6]

[1] At a more reasonable price, more cheaply.
[2] leaf 355. Rog. Wigston, rec., is here first mentioned as one of those before whom the leet is held. Cf. p. 700.
[3] *Magister* prefixed before all names. [4] Redundant.
[5] For troubles with the dyers *v. supra*, p. 698 *et passim*.
[6] For the competition of the country craftsmen see above, p. 661

vpon peyne to forfett for euery such defaut vj s. viij d. to be leuyed by distresse, to the vse of the Citie & Shireffes for the tyme beyng egallie to be dyuyded.

Order "for drying skinnes in Litle Parke.

[Enacted] that no Skynner of this Citie shall fromehensfurth dry eny Skynnes within the Litle Parke oneles he holde of the wardens of the Citie on of ther housez in the seid Litle Parke, [or 6s. 8d. fine each time] to be leuyed to thus[1] abouseid.

No butcher to sell "Talow" to non-residents,

[2][Enacted] that no Bocher or other inhabitaunt of this Citie shall sell eny talow to eny person dwellyng out of this Citie, vpon peyne to forfett for euery Stone so solde xx s. to be leuyed to thuse of the Citie; ner that no persone sell eny talowe to eny Cordener,[3] vpon like peyn etc.

nor above 2*s.* 4*d.* a stone;

Also that no bocher or other persone shall sell eny talowe aboue ij s. iiij d. the Stone, vpon peyn of vj s. viij d. for euery Stone sold to the contrarie to be leuyed as is abouseid. And also that no Chaundler of this Citie sell eny Candelles aboue the price of j d. ob. the li., vpon peyn of iij s. iiij d. for euery pound so sold to be leuyed to thuse abouseid. And also that no persone doo enterup or lett eny estraunger to sell Candelles within this Citie vpon peyn of iij s. iiij d. to be levied as is aforseid.

no chandler to sell "Candelles" above 1½*d.* per lb.;

and no one to prevent strangers selling them.

RECORD OF THE SALE OF A HOUSE.

Oct. 20, 1531. Phil. Partriche and his wife

Mem. that the xx^ti^ day of Octobre in the xxij^ti^ yeire of the reign of kyng Henry the eight, before Maister Rog. Wales, Meier (etc.), Maister Will. Wicame, Maister Julyne Nethermyll & other aldermen in the Councell house of the seid Citie, on Philip Partriche & Anne his wif, doughter & heire vnto on Edw. Colett & Alice his wif, doughter to Ric. Cardemaker, which Philip & Anne the day & yeir abouseid for a gremont & anende (*sic*) with the Craft of Gurdelers of the Citie for a house in the Yorle-streit next vnto the Corner house of the Abbott of Combe haue received & hadd in recompense of ther cleyme & title in the seid house fyve nobles[4] & fyve shelyinges (*sic*) of money. & for the same money the

renounce their claim to a house in Earl Street,

[1] *i. e.* the use. [2] leaf 355, back.
[3] Cordwainer, shoemaker. [4] A noble = 6*s.* 8*d.*

and deliver their title deed to the mayor.

seid Philip & Anne also in the *p*resens of the seid M*aister*s deliu*er*ed a deedd (*sic*), wherby they cleymed the seid house, to the seid Meir to be cancelled & adnulled. & so it was doon by the seid Meir immediatlie etc.

RIC. RISE, MAYOR, 1531.

Jan. 25.

[1][Election of officers.]

Electors.

[M*agister*[2] Tho. Astelen, Joh. Humfrey, Will. Wycame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Will. Smyth, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spens*er*, Hugo Lawton, Will. Banwell, Rog. Palmer, Rob. Kervyn, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardeno*ur*, [3]Hugo Gregory, Rauf Dale, Tho. Brewer.]

Officers.

[m. Ric. Rise, M*er*cer; rec. Rog. Wigston; cor. Rob. Grene; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Joh. Talont, Goldsmyth, Rad. Hopkyns, Taillo*ur*; w. Hug. Dalawey, M*er*cer, Hug. Blore; mace, Will. Alen; crier, Joh. Weytt.]

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Ciuitas Couentri*e*."

[4] ¶ [V. f. p. held before Ric. Rise, m., Rog. Wigston,[5] rec., Joh. Jett, Sym. Parker b., on Thursday Apr. 20, 22 Hen. VIII.]

[6]"Inquisitio" = the inquest.

[M*agister*[7] Tho. Astelen, Joh. Humfrey, Will. Wicame, Jul. Nethyrmyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Wales, Will. Smyth, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spens*er*, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Chris. Wadd, Jas. Gilbert, Will. Coton, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardeno*ur*, [8]Rad. Hopkyns.]

Searchers

[Enacted] that Joh. Grene & Rauf Worseley, weyu*er*s,

[1] leaf 356. The first letter is highly ornamented. After the usual election formula there follows: "*per* Ciues & Burgens*es* d*icte* Ciui*tatis* quor*um* no*mina* subscript*a* exist*unt* = by the citizens and burgesses of this said city whose names are underwritten.

[2] M*aister* precedes all names as far as note 3. [3] Untitled.

[4] leaf 356, back.

[5] For the mention of the recorder's name see above, p. 704.

[6] The marginal glosses appear to be in the same handwriting as the rest of the script.

[7] Repeated before all names as far as note 8. [8] Untitled.

shal-be for this yeire serchers to se the acte maid at the last lete[1] concernyng Cloithe & Cappes to be thickked by walkers dwellyng within the Citie to be put in due execucion accordyng to the tenour of the same acte.

appointed for preventing the employment of non-resident fullers.

Item, wher-as great defaut is thought in the seriauntes in warnynge the watche for that they warne nyghtlie meny, & verey fewe do watche, so that therby it is supposed that the seid seriauntes shuld [have] great geyn & advauntage, It is therfore enacted that the seriauntes fromehensforth shall not warne nyghtlie aboue the nomber of xxiiij persones to keip the watche, vpon peyne if they be proved to do the contrarie to leesse ther offices, or otherwise to be punysshed by the discrecion of Maister Meire for the tyme beyng.

[2] "The watche."

24 persons to be warned by the sergeants every night to keep watch.

[Enacted] that no Clothier, Capper, nor no other inhabitaunte of this Citie shall fromehensfurthe deliuer to eny spynner or other workefolke aboue ij li. & a half of woll for a weight;[3] And to pay redie money for the workemanship therof, & no wares, vitayll, nor other stuff,[4] vpon peyn to forfeit for euery defaut vj s. viij d. to be levied by distresse or by the Meires commaundement to the vse of the Citie. And that all spynners & knytters do ther worke truelie & substanciallie, vpone peyn of imprisonment.

[2] "No weyght of worke to be aboue ij li. & di."

No truck wages to be given to spinners.

[V. f. p. held before Ric. Rice, m., Joh. Jett, Sym. Parker, b., on Tuesday, Oct. 10, 23 Hen. VIII.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie."

[Magister[5] Tho. Astelen, Joh. Humfrey, Will. Wycame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Wales, Will. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spenser, Ric. Townesend, Hugo Lawton, Chris.[6] Wadde, Rob. Kyrven, Will. Coten, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardenour, [7] Rad. Hopkyns, Rad. Dale, Tho. Brewer.

Jury.

[Will. Marler, Mercer, Tho. Burdon.]

Sheriffs.

[8] Item, wher-as the Company, feliship, & Craft of Cardemakers & Sadelers of this Citie meny yeires & of longe continuaunce haue hadd & yet haue the cheif rule,

[2] "Cardmakers, sadelers & Cappers to be vnyte together."

[1] See p. 704. [2] Contemporary hand.
[3] v. *supra*, p. 243 *et passim*. [4] See above, p. 689.
[5] Repeated before names until note 7. [6] Xpoferus in MS.
[7] Untitled. [8] Craig, *op. cit.* 79–80, Sharp, *Mysteries*, 43–5.

The card-makers and saddlers, who have hitherto maintained a chapel, pageant and pageant-house,

gouernaunce, reparyng & meyntenaunce as-well of a Chappell within the parishe Churche of seynt Michelles in the seid Citie, named seynt Thomas Chappell,[1] & of the ornamentes, Juelles & lightes of the same, As also of a pagiaunt with the pagiaunt-house & pleyng geire with other appurtenaunces & apparells belongyng to the same pagiaunt. The Meyntenaunce & reparacion wherof haithe

find they are unable to bear so great a charge:

been & is yeirelie to the greit charge, cost, & expenses of the seid company & crafte, beyng now but a fewe persones in nomber & havyng but smale eyde of eny other Craft for the same. So that ther said Charge is & like to be more ponderouse & chargeable to theme then they may convenyentlie bere or susteyn in shorte tyme to come, oneles provision for a remedy may be spedilie hadd. In consideracion wherof & for-asmoch as the company, felishiip, & Craft of Cappers within this Citie, now beyng in nomber meny welthy and honest persones, & have maid dyuers tymes sute & request unto the Meire & his brethern, the aldermen of this Citie, to have a certeyn place to theme assigned & lymyted, as dyuers other Craftes have, to sitt to-gether in ther seid parishe Churche to here ther dyvyne service & bere suche charges for the same as by Maister Meire & his brethern, the Aldermen,

it is therefore ordained that the cappers, a wealthy craft,

shal-be assigned: It is therfor by the Mediacion of Maister Richard Rice now Meire of this Citie & of his seid brethern, the aldermen, at this present lete assembled & by auctoritie of the same with the agrement, consent, & assent of all the seid parties, Companyes, & Craftes, enacted, ordeyned, & constituted that the seid company & Craft of Cappers frome-hensforthe shalbe associat,

shall be associated with them,

Joyned, & accompanyed with the seid Craftes of Cardemakers & Sadelers in the gouernaunce, reparyng, & meynteynyng, as well of & in the seid Chappell, named Seynt Thomas Chappell, & of the ornamentes & lightes of the same, As of & in the seid pagyaunt[2] [3] And pagiaunt house with the Implementes, appurtenaunces, pleaers, reherces,

[1] The chapel proper is in the south aisle. Over the south porch is a parvise. It is still called the Cappers' chapel, and the company still meet and eat there on the feast of S. Thomas of Canterbury.

[2] There follows "*verte ffolium*" = turn the leaf.

[3] leaf 357, back.

& pleyng geire accustumed, belongyng & necessarie to & for the same, after suche maner or better as it haithe been used & accustumed before tyme. And that euery housholder or Shop-keper of euery of the seid companyes and Craftes toward & for the charges and exspenses aboueseid shall not onelie pay yeirelie to the Maisters & kepers of the seid Craftes at such tyme & day as the seid Craftes shall appoynt xij d.; And upon Seynt Thomas day, named the Translacion of Seynt Thomas,[1] shall also offere yeirelie euery of theme j d. at the high Masse seid in the seid Chappell; But also the seid Maisters, company, & Craftes fromehensfurthe shall applie & bestowe to & vpon the seid reparacions & charges all the revenues, rentes, & profittes of all soche landes, houses, and tenementes as they or eny of theme now haue or herafter shall haue to the vse & behove of the seid companyes & craftes; And the viij s. of yerelie pencion which is yeirelie payed by the peynters & Caruers unto the seid charges shall yeirelie be payed & go to the same charges. And that the seid Maisters now electe & hereafter to be electe Maisters of the seid Craftes shall yeirelie, upon suche a day as the seid Maisters shall appoynt & agre, accompeny themeselfes to-gethers & bryng in & make a true & a full accompt euery of theme to the other of all ther seid receites, revenues, and profittes. And the seid charges & the charges of the kepyng of harnes belongyng to the seid Craftes with the weiryng of the same in the watches & other necessarie charges & busynes for the seid Craftes allowed, payed, & performed, the ouerpluse of the seid money of the seid revenues, profittes, & money shal-be bestowed & put in a box with two lockes & two keyes, the on key to remeyne with the Maisterȝ of the Craft of Cardmakers and Sadelers, And the other key to remeyn with the Maisters of the Craft of Cappers, sauelie to keip the seid money in the seid box untill they have nede to bestow it upon the seid Charges or otherwise, as they shall thynk convenyent; & the seid box to remeyn in the said Chappell fastoned with a cheyne.

and that each member of the united fellowship

shall pay 12*d.* a year towards expenses,

and 1*d.* at the offertory on S. Thomas's day,

the painters and carvers contributing 8*s.* a year between them.

Accounts are to be rendered annually,

and surplus funds to be kept in a box

in the chapel.

Also it is enacted by the auctoritie and consent aforseid

[1] Dec. 29.

All these crafts are to sit lovingly and familiarly together during service time,

and walk two and two in processions, taking turns in matters of precedence year by year.

that the Maisters & compeny of the Craft of Cappers shall fromehensfurthe femyliarlie and louynglie accompeny & sitt togethers in the seid Chappell with the seid compeny and craft of Cardemakers & Sadelers to here ther divyne seruice, & also shall go togethers in ther processions & watches[1] too & too togethers. And that the seid compeny & craft of cardmakers & Sadelers shall haue the preemynence & ouerhande in ther sittynges & goyng together oon yeire, & the seid Craft & compeny of Cappers shall lykewyse haue the preemynence & ouerhande in ther sittyng & goyng the other yeire, and so to continew frome yeire to yeire lovynglie fromehensfurthe; so that the seid Cardemakers & sadelers shall not lack ther rome nor sittyng in the seid Chappell.

[2] "The barbars to pay yeirelie vj s. viij d. to the Girdelers."

[3] Item, it is enacted also that the Company & Craft of Barbars of this Citie shall yeirelie fromehensfurthe pay unto the Company & Craft of Gurdelers of this citie vj s. viij d. toward ther charges of the pagyant & processions at suche day & tyme as they were wont to pay the seid some vnto the Craft of Cardmakers, vpon peyn euery of theme to forfeit for ther defaut xij d. to be levyed by distresse to the vse of the Citie.

"The walkers to pay yeirelie vj s. viij d. to the weyvers & the skynners to pay v s."

Item, it is also enacted that the compeny & Craft of walkers of this citie shall yeirelie pay unto the company & Craft of weyvers vj s. viij d. towards the charges of ther pagyant at such day & tyme as it hathe be wont to be payed. And that the Company & Craft of Skynners shall likewise pay unto the seid Craft of weyvers yeirelie v s. towardes ther seid Charges.

[2] "Bruers & alewyves."

[Enacted] that all bruers that bruc to sell shall sell ther ale after the rait of xviij d. the Cester, and threttene galons to the Cester:[4] And that euery ale-wiff & tipler sell & send furthe of ther house ther ale to theme that require it after the rait of a half-peny a quarte, vpon peyn to forfett for euery defaut iij s. iiij d. And that no bruer that this yeire doith ley downe or leive ther bruing shall [not] bruc herafter eny more, vpon peyn to forfett xx s.

[1] On the riding of the watch on Midsummer Eve and S. Peter's night see above, p. 35; Sharp, *Mysteries*, pp. 174–206.
[2] Contemporary hand. [3] leaf 358.
[4] This measure evidently varies, see above, p. 678.

WILL. SMYTH, MAYOR, 1532.

[1][Election of officers.]

Electors.

[*Magister*[2] Rog. Wales, Joh. Humfrey, Joh. Bonde, Will. Wicame, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Tho. Smyth, Hugo Lawton, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Tho. Spens*er*, Ric. Townesend, Rog. Palmer, Rob. Kyrvyn, Will. Coton, Tho. Gardeno*ur*, Sim. P*ar*ker, [3]Joh. Talont, Rad. Hopkyns.]

Officers.

[m. Will. Smyth,[4] drap*er*; rec. Rog. Wigston; cor. Rob. Grene; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Laur. Fane, fyshemong*er*, Tho. Keveit, sherman; w. Tho. Smyth, Jun., drap*er*, Tho. Riley, drap*er*; mace, Will. Alen; crier, Joh. Weyt.]

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

May 14.

[5][V. f. p. held before Will. Smyth, m., Will. M*ar*ler, Tho. Burdon, b., on May 14, 24 Hen. VIII.]

"Inquis*itio*" = the inquest.

[M*agister*[6] Rog. Wales, Will. Wica*m*, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Astelen, Ric. Rise, Hugo Lawton, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Wilmer, Joh. Crampe, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Ric. Townesend, Chris. Wadd, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardeno*ur*, [7]Laur. ffane, Tho. Keveit, Will. Alyson, Joh. Foxall, Tho. Herryng.]

Orders of leet.

[Enacted] that all Bakers inh*a*bited w*ith*in this Citie fromehensfurth shall make all ther brede of good & true stuff of what Greyn so eu*er* it be, & that the keip the assise of the same truelie as it shal-be lymyt & assigned vnto theme by M*aister* Meire of the Citie: And that the seid Bakers ne eny of them sell eny of ther brede, nether horsebred ne other bred, aboue the rait of xiij penyworthe to the dos*en*. And also that they ne eny of theme sell eny horsebred to Innes or otherwise aboue the Rait of iij horseloues for a peny, vpon peyn to forfeit for eu*er*y

[8] "Bakers to kepe the Assize."[8]

Horse bread to be sold at 3 loaves a penny.

[1] leaf 358, back. [2] Title prefixed to all names until note 3.
[3] Untitled. [4] Mag*ister* prefixed. [5] leaf 359.
[6] Prefixed to all names as far as note 7. [7] Untitled.
[8] In different handwritings. Marginal annotations are henceforth usually in the same handwriting as the text is.

offence contrarie to this acte vj s. viij d. to be levied by distresse of ther goodes, the on half therof to goo to the vse of the seid Meier, & the other half to the vse of the Shireffes for the tyme beyng etc.

"Constables" are not to be summoned "for wache,"

[Enacted] at the request & peticion of the Constables of this Citie that all Constables within the Citie & suburbes of the same shal-be discharged fromehensforth of the Comen watche in this Citie & also of all paymentes & charges of the same, so that the seid Constables & euery of theme in his ward endeyver theme-selfes diligentlie to avoyed out of the Citie all such vacabundes & myghtye beggers[1] as herafter shall resort & come into the Citie.

but they must expel vagabonds.

"Tanned lether."

[Enacted] that thre men of this Citie shal-be yeirelie fromehensforth Chosen & sworne at Eister lete by *Maister* Meire for the tyme beyng to be serchers of Tanned lether; which serchers shall haue auctoritie to allowe & disable Tanned lether, & to sett a seall appoynted for the same to euery well tanned hide for the prove of the allowaunce of the same hide. And the seid serchers to haue for ther labour ij d. of euery hide not well tanned, the same ij d. to be levyed by distres of the hides or other goodes of the offendoures etc.

"Searchers' fee 2d."

[3] "Lether not to be sold till serched & sealed."[3]

[2][Enacted] that no Tanner within this Citie carie eny lether tanned within the Citie out of the Citie to sell vntill it be serched, allowed & sealled by the serchers appoynted for the same, vpon peyn to forfett for euery hide solde & caried to sell contrarie to this acte vj s. viij d. to be levied in forme aforseid to thuse of the Meire & Shireffes for the tyme beyng.

Pavements between Grey-friar and Cheyles-more Gates to be re-paired.

[Enacted] that euery person havyng grounde, land or tenementes betwene seynt Fraunces yait[4] & Chellesmore yait shall amend & make ther pavymentes ther befor ther grownds befor the feyst of seynt John Baptist next comyng, vpon peyn of x s.

"Peynters, Gurdelers, Card-makers."

[Enacted] that the Craft of Peynters shall pay yeirelie fromehen[s]furth iiij s. of the viij s. that they wer wont to pay to a pagiaunt vnto the Craft of Gurdelers, &

[1] See above, p. 652. [2] leaf 359, back.
[3–3] Different handwritings. [4] Gray-friar Gate.

the other iiij s. of the seid viij s. vnto the Craft of Cardemakers.

"Weightes & Mesures"

Wher-as dyuers & meny within this Citie as well vynteners, ale wyves & Tiples, as dyuers other inhabitantes of the same do vse & occupie measures & weightes vnlawfull & not sealled ne allowed by Maister Meire nor his officers to the great disceit & hurt of the Comen people of this Citie, And for reformacion therof It is enacted at this lete that no persone within this Citie sell eny wyne, ale or other stuff, ne vse eny weightes after the feist of seynt John Baptist next comyng by eny maner measures or weightes oneles they be sealled or allowed by Maister Meire, or by his officers, vpon peyn to forfeit the seid Measures or weightes not sealed nor allowed, as is aforesed, And that it shal-be laufull to the swardeberer or the Meires seriaunt to seas & take the same, wheresoeuer they fynde them to ther owne vse etc.

unlawful and unsealed

to be seized by the officers.

[1] [V. f. p. held on Tuesday, Oct. 15, 24 Hen. VIII.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie."[3] Oct. 15.

[*Magister*[2] Rog. Wales, Will. Wycam, Jul. Nethermyll, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Astelen, Ric. Rice, Hugo Lawton, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Wilmer, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Rog. Palmer, Rob. Kyrvyn, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardenour, [4] Laur. Fane, Will. Norton, Tho. Herryng, Crist. Wharton, Will. Alyson, Rob. Smyth.]

Sheriffs.

[Joh. Saunders, Marcer, Will. Rogers, Gresier.[5]]

"Bakers" to sell 14 pennyworth to the dozen;

[Enacted] that the bakers of this Citie shall sell ther bred, as well mannes-bred as horse-bred, after the rait of xiiij to the dosyn as they haue be wont to doo notwithstandyng the acte maid the last lete to the contrarie,[6] so that the seid bakers keip the true assise to theme gyven by Maister Meire for the tyme beying: And that the brewers of the Citie shall sell ther ale frome-hensfurth after the rait of xviij d. the Cester & xiij to the dosyne, vpon the peyn for euery Cester sold to the contrarie to

"& brewers" to sell ale at 18*d.* a sextary.

[1] leaf 360. [2] Names preceded by *Magister* until note 3.
[3] See note 3, p. 712. [4] Untitled.
[5] The usual formula followed by "& jur[ati sunt]" = and they were sworn.
[6] See above, p. 711.

forfeit vj s. viij d. to be levyed by the Shereffes by distresse to ther owne vse.

"Candell." [Enacted] that no persone of this Citie shall sell eny Candell aboue the rait of j d. ob. the li., vpon peyn to forfeit for euery pounde j d. to be levied as is aforseid.

HUGO LAWTON, MAYOR, 1533.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Jan. 25, 1533. [1]¶ [Election of new officers.]

[*Magister* [2] Rog. Wales, Will. Wycam, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Ric. Rise, Tho. Smyth, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spenser, Ric. Townesend, Cris. Wadd, Rob. Kyrvyn, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardenour, Joh. Jett, Will. Marler, Tho. Burdon.]

Officers. [m. Hugo Lawton,[3] Capper; rec. Rog. Wigston, "Armiger"; cor. Joh. Grene; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch.[4] Joh. Moseley, Marcer, Will. Joynour, sen., Grasier; w. Cris. Waren, Draper, Hen. Over, Mercer; mace, Will. Alen; crier, Joh. Weit.]

BUSINESS AND LEETS.

[They elected Masters Will. Wicam and Tho. Dodd, aldermen, to assist and help the aforesaid H. Lauton, newly elected mayor, in assessing the prices of victuals to be sold in the aforesaid city for the year following.]

Item, eligerunt (*sic*) Magistrum Will. Wicam, draper, & Magistrum Tho. Dodd, Mercer, ac Aldermannos Ciuitatis predicte, ad assistandum & auxiliandum predictum (*sic*) Hugonem Lauton, m. nunc de nouo electum in assessando precia victualium in Ciuitate predicta vendendorum pro hoc anno sequente etc.

"Maister Banwell" may occupy the craft of wad-setting so long as he does not enveigle away other men's servants. ¶ Mem. that it is enacted by the assemble & eleccion aforseid that Maister Tho. Banwell, draper, shall haue libertie to occupie the Craft of wadd-settyng[5] with such seruauntes as he cane geit to exercise the seid occupacion, so that the seid Tho. Banwell do no acte ne thynge to enveagle or take away the seruauntes or Journemen of

[1] leaf 360, back. [2] Repeated before every name.
[3] Magister precedes this name.
[4] MS. mistakenly calls these wardens. [5] See above, p. 704.

the diers or wad-setters of this Citie, oneles the seid *seruauntes* or Journemen gyve laufull warnyng to depa*r*te frome their seid se*r*uices accordyng to the order & custome of this Citie etc.

[1][V. f. p. held before Hugo Lawton, m., Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, b., on May 6, 25 Hen. VIII.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie." May 6.

[2] Esson*ia* ¶.

Essoins.

¶ [*Ma*gister[3] Rog. Wales, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Tho. Asteleyn, Will. Smyth, Rog. Palmer, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Wilmer, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Ric. Townesend, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardino*ur*, Sym. P*ar*ker, Will. M*ar*ler, [4]Joh. Moseley, Will. Joyno*ur*, Will. Alyson, Will. Saunders, Tho. Napton, Hen. Hynde.]

[Enacted] that all in*hab*itaunte*s* of this Citie frome-hensfurth shal-be at li*b*ertie to bie & sell as moch barley & malt as they woll or cane wi*th*in the Citie so that the Citie may be sufficientlie se*r*ued, And that they do not forstall nor regrate the M*ar*ket wi*th*in this Citie in that behalf, eny act of leet maid hertofore to the cont*r*arie notwi*th*standyng.

The sale of "barley & malt"[5] to be unrestricted.

¶ [Enacted] at this p*r*esent leete that all the bochers & vitaillo*ur*es wi*th*in this Citie shall kill & sell wekelie wi*th*in the Citie asmoche beiff as they woll; And that they shall make no dyvision of ther beiff so killed aboue the nomber of too of the seid bochers to a beiff; And that if eny of the seid bochers & vittailloures sell, or kill to sell, eny Mottons, veilles or porkes, & haue no beif to sell in manour & fourme aforseid That then the seid Motton, veill & porke & euery of theme shal-be forfeited & taken frome theme by the shireffes of this Citie for the tyme beyng; and to be ordered & dyvided by the discrecion of M*ai*ster Meire for the tyme beyng; And that this p*r*esent acte shal-begyne & take effecte vpon Thurresday next before the Assencion day next ensuyng.

The [5]"bochers" are [6]"not to Combine or stint themselues to what number of beasts they will kill,"[6]

under pain of forfeiture.

[1] leaf 361.

[2] From *essoniare* = to essoin, tender an excuse for non-appearance. The fact that no names follow shows that no one essoined himself, and that all were present.

[3] Prefixed up to note 4 to the names of the jury. [4] Untitled.

[5] The scribe's contemporary gloss. [6–6] Later hand.

[1] "Craftes."
[2] "All men to Associate to some one Craft, as the mayor shall Apoynt."[2]

¶ [Enacted] that such persones as be not associat & assistant to eny Craft which is charged with eny pagiant of this Citie, as fishemongers, bowyers, flechers & suche other, shall now be associat & assistaunt to such craftes as Maister Meire shall assigne & apoynt theme.

The [1] "brewers" to sell ale 14 gallons to a sextary.

[3] [Enacted] that euery brewer that brewes to sell within this Citie shall sell xiiij galonse ale to the Cester,[4] And not above the price of xviij d. the Cester, vpone peyne to forfeit for euery defaut vj s. viij d. to be levied by distrese by the Shireffes to ther owne vse: And that all Tiplers of ale shall sell ther ale as well by farthyngworthers as otherwise, and not aboue the rait of iij d. the galon, vpone like peyn for euery defaut.

ANNE BOLEYN'S LETTER.

The Copie of a lettre deliuered to the Meire frome the quene.

To our trusti & wel-beloued the meire & his Bretherne of Couentre.

By the quene.

Sept. 7, 1533.
[2] "Prince borne." [2] The queen announces her safe and happy delivery of a princess (afterwards Queen Elizabeth),

Trustie & wel-beloued, we great yow well; And wheras it haith pleased the goodnes of almyghtie God of his infinite mercie & grace to send vnto vs at this tyme good spede in the deliueraunce & bryngyng furth of a princes to the great Joy, reioyce & singuler comfort of my good lord, vs, & of all his good & lovyng subgiettes of this his realme; for the which his inestimable benevolence so s[h]ewed vnto vs, we haue no litle cause to gyve high thankes, laude & preysyng vnto our seid maker, like as we doo most lowly, humbly, & with all the inwarde desire of our hert. And in-asmoch as we vndoubtidelie trust that this our[5] good spede is to your great pleasure, comforte & consolacion we therfore by these our lettres aduertise yow therof, desyryng & hertelie prayng yow to gyve with vs vnto almyghtie God high thankes, glorie, laude & preysyng, And to prey for the good helth, prosperitie & continuell preseruacion of the seid princes accordynglie.

and asks for their prayers to God for the infant's preservation.

[1] The scribe's contemporary gloss. [2–2] Later hand.
[3] leaf 361, back. [4] See above, p. 713.
[5] deletions.

Yeven vnder *our* signet at my lordes Manour of Grenewich the vij day of September in the xxv^th^ yeire of my seid lord*es* Reigne.[1] From Greenwich.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

[2]¶ [V. f. p. held on Oct. 7, 25 Hen. VIII.] "Ciuitas Couentri*e*." Oct. 7, 1533.

Esson*ia*. ¶.

[*Magister*[3] Rog. Wales, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Asteleyn, Will. Smyth, Rog. Palmer, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Wilmer, Joh. Crampe, Will. Towres, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Tho. Spenser, Ric. Townesend, Rob. Kirvyn, Jas. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardinour, Joh. Jett, Will. Marler, Tho. Burdon, [4]Joh. Mosely, Will. Joynour.] Jury of 25.

¶ [" Magister " Tho. Brewer, Mercer, " Magister " Geo. Philips, Cowper.[5]] Sheriffs.

¶ [Enacted] for dyuers consideracions that all the bakers of Warwick & of the contrey, which bryng bred wekelie into this Citie to be sold on Wedensday & Fryday at the gaoll hall dore, shall from-hensfurth leave all such bredd as they cannot sell the seid dayes at iij Tiplers howsez at the seid gaole-hall dore or at on of theme: That is to say at Alexanders house, Ric. Cookes house, and at Alice Tiplers house, ther to be sold to the comen people of the Citie when they come for it, And not to be sold in eny other place of the Citie, vpone peyn of euery of the seid bakers to forfeit all such bredd as they offer to be sold in eny other place. Orders of Leet. Country [6]" bakers " to leave their unsold bread at certain houses to be sold to the common people.

ROG. PALMER, MAYOR, 1534.

[7]¶ [Election of officers.] "Ciuitas Couentri*e*." Jan. 25. 25 electors.

[*Magister*[8] Will. Smyth, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Hen. Wall, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Asteleyn, Rog. Wales, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Will. Towres, Tho.

[1] The original of this letter is preserved in the *Letter Book*, Corp. MS. A 79.
[2] leaf 362. [3] Title prefixed to names until note 4.
[4] Untitled. [5] " & Jur[ati sunt] " = and they were sworn.
[6] The scribe's contemporary gloss. [7] leaf 362, back.
[8] Title repeated until note 1 next page.

Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Ric. Townesend, Jas. Gilbert, Will. Coton, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardynour, Joh. Jett, Sym. Parker, Will. Marler, Tho. Burdon, [1]Joh. Moseley, Will. Jeynour, Cris. Waren.]

Officers. ¶ [m. Rog. Palmer, Mercer; rec. Rog. Wigston; cor. Rob. Grene; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Will. Stirropp, Joh. Nories; w. Ric. Humfrey, Mercer, Jas. Rogers, vintener; mace, Will. Alen; crier, Joh. Weit.[2]

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Cluitas Couentrie." [V. f. p. held before Rog. Palmer, m., Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, b., on Apr. 21, 25 Hen. VIII.]

[3]Essonia. ¶.

Jury. [¶ Magister[4] Will. Smyth, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hugh Lawton, Rob. Kirvyn, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Ric. Townesend, Cris. Waid, Jas. Gilbert, Will. Coton, Tho. Gardynour, Sym. Parker, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, [5]Will. Stirropp, Joh. Norres, Hugo Dalaway, Hugo Bloure.]

Orders of Leet. [6]"Bochers" are forbidden to sell hides to foreigners before 11 o'clock on Fridays. ¶ [Enacted] that non of the Craft of Bochers within this Citie shall fromehensfurth sell eny of ther beastes hides to eny forener or foren Tanner vpon the Fryday within this Citie before the owre of xj of the Clocke before non, vpon peyn to forfeit for euery of the seid hides sold contrarie to the tenour of this acte iij s. iiij d. to be levied by the Shireffes by distrese to thuse of the seid Shireffes.

The sheriffs are to give the "seriauntes" but one livery suit a year instead of two. ¶ Also wher-as the Shireffes of this Citie haue been accustumed to geve to euery seriaunt of this Citie dyuers lyvereys in the yeire, In consideracion of the ease of ther great charges It is now enacted that the seid Shireffes frome-hensfurth shal-be charged to geve vnto euery of the seid seriauntes but onelie oon honest liuery of iiij yardes of brode cloith ageynst Cristenmas, and at Corpus *Christi*-tide suche sleves [and] Jackettes as they haue been wont to gyve vnto the seid seriauntes And no moo liuereys in the yeire. And at Whitsontide next the seid Shireffes shall

[1] Untitled. [2] "Et Jur[ati sunt]" = and they were sworn.
[3] leaf 363. [4] Title repeated as far as note 5.
[5] Untitled. [6] The scribe's own gloss.

pay vnto euery of the seid seriauntes iij s. iiij d. in recompense of the lack of parte of ther seid lyuereyes to theme yevon at Cristenmas last past.

[1]¶[Enacted] that all & euery persone & persones, that haue eny housez or land adioynyng to the River of Shirburne within this Citie, shall befor Midsomer next comyng clense, make clene & scoure to the botome the seid River as fare as his or ther house or landes goith, vpone peyne to forfeit xx s. for euery defaute to be levied by the Shireffes of the Citie by distrese of the goodes of the owner of the seid landes, or of the goodes of the tenauntes of the seid landes, to the vse of the Meire, beilleffes & Cominaltie of the seid Citie.

Every one having house or land adjoining the "Shirburne"[2] to cleanse the river as far as their property extends or 20*s.* fine.

¶ Wher-as by auncient custome tyme owt of mynde the comen groundes aboute this Citie & within the liberties of the same, which owe to be opone & in comen at Lammas, & parte of theme at Michelmas, meny of theme haue been now of lait yeires by tolleracion & sufferaunce put into ardolf[3] & broken vp to soo corne vpone, and so gentillie & favourablie suffered for a tyme because of the great darthe & scarsenes of corne, which in fewe & lait yeires haith fallen in all parties of this Realme: And albeit so that now, thankes be to almyghtie God, Corne is comon to good plentie & to easie & reasonable price, Yet that notwithstandyng dyuers persones, regardyng more ther owne private profites then the seid auncient custome & the comen welth & profite of the Citie, or the good & favourable sufferaunce of the gouernoures & hedes of the same, haue broken vpp, aerede[4] & soen moo of the seid groundes now latelie then euer were before, to the great hurte, preiudice & nocument[5] of all other the Citizens, dwellers, & inhabitauntes of the same, Not onelie in puttyng theme from ther recreacions & walkes, in Shotyng & other laudable & honest pastymes, but also in takyng awey the depasturyng of the mylche kie, Catell, & hakney horsez, which of necessitie the comeners & inhabitauntes of the

Order[2] "for Comen grounde plowed."[2]

More of the common land is under tillage in time of plenty than was permitted in time of dearth, to the hurt of the citizens in their deprivation of honest pleasures and

[1] leaf 363, back. [2] The scribe's own gloss.
[3] In this form the word is neither in *N.E.D.* nor *E.D.D.* Dr. Hen. Bradley suggests the derivation from *seo erede healf* = the ploughed portion. The word evidently signifies tillage.
[4] Ear = to plough. [5] injury.

means of livelihood.

Citie must & ought to haue, and *with*out the which thei cannot well liff & meynteyn ther occupa*c*ions & menyall *seruauntes*, In Consideraci*on* of the *pre*missez and that the seid p*er*sones, which haue broken vpp & sowen the seid groundes, haue agreed & contented themself*es* before M*aister* Meire & the Councell of the Citie no-more hereafter to breke vpp or heier[1] eny of the seid groundes, hàvyng lib*er*tie at this tyme to carie awey ther corne now sowen, It is enacted at this *prese*nte lete that no p*er*sone or p*er*sones hereafter of what estait or degre so-eu*er* he or thei be, shall breike vpp, aier,[1] or sowe eny of the seid co*m*en groundes accustumed to lie open at Lammas & Michelmas, vpon peyn to forfeit to the Citie for eu*er*y acre so broken vp & put in tillage xl s. except the especiall license opteyned & hadd of the Meire for the tyme beyng and his brethern & the co*m*en Councell of the Citie. And that it shal-be leful to all theme that haue now sowen corne vpon the seid groundes to cary the same awey when it is ripe, be it before Lammas or after, *with*out lett or int*er*rupc*i*on of eny p*er*sone or p*er*sones etc.

Hencefor-ward "none" are per-mitted "to plow

without Licence off the mayor and his brethren and the Comon Councell."

[2 V. f. p. held on Oct. 8, 26 Hen. VIII.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Oct. 8.

Esson*ia*.

Jury of 26.

[Ma*gister*[3] Will. Smyth, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rob. Kirvyn, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Wilmer, Joh. Crampe, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Wethers, Ric. Townesend, Jas. Gilbert, Will. Coton, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardyno*ur*, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers,[4] Joh. Norres, Ric. Humfrey, Cris. Waren, Tho. Smyth, Will. Norton, Tho. Keveit, Hug. Dalaway.

Sheriffs.

¶ [5 Joh. Seill, drap*er*, Hugo Gregorie, whittawer.]

6 "Ser-iauntes" are to have their usual liveries.

¶ [Enacted] that all & eu*er*y ser*i*aunt & officer of this Citie shall fromehensfurth haue & enyoye all such liu*er*eyes & fees yeirelie as thei in tymes past haue hadd & been accustumed to haue, not*with*standyng an acte maide at the last leet to the con*tr*arie.[7]

¶ [Enacted] that no p*er*sone of this Citie shall fromehensfurth cast eny dunge or muck into the River of

[1] Ear = to plough. [2] leaf 364.
[3] The title precedes all names as far as note 4. [4] Untitled.
[5] Magistr*os* prefixed. [6] The scribe's own gloss.
[7] See above, p. 718.

Sherburne, Ner swepe the streit to convey the dunge or Mucke therof into the seid River, vpone peyne of eu*e*ry housholder that so offendeth by hymself, his wyff, his s*e*ru*a*unt, or otherwise, for cu*e*ry defaute xij d. to be levied by the Shireffes of the Citie by distrese to ther owne vse of the goodes of the housholder etc.

The river 1 "Sherburne" again!

ROB. KYRVYN, MAYOR, 1535.

[2 Election of officers.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Jan. 25. 25 electors.

[*Magister* 3 Hugo Lawton, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Will. Smyth, Cris. Waid, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Tho. Gopsill, Ric. Townesend, Jac. Gilbert, Will. Coton, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardyno*u*r, Sym. P*a*rker, Will. Marler, Tho. Burdon, Will. Roge*r*s, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, 4 Will. Stirropp, Joh. Norres.]

New officers.

¶ [m. 5 Rob. Kirvyn, fishemonger; rec. Rog. Wigston; cor. Rob. Grene; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Edm. Damport, Will. Randle; w. Tho. Cote*s*, dier, Joh. Lawton, Capper; mace, Hen. Thirkell; crier, Joh. Weit.6]

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Apr. 20, 1535.

7 ¶ [V. f. p. held before Rob. Kirvyne, m., Joh. Seill, Hugo Gregorie, b., on Apr. 20, 26 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister* 8 Hugo Lawton, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Walles, Rog. Palmer, Cris. Waid, Tho. Smyth, Tho. Wilmer, Joh. Cramp, Ric. Townesend, Jas. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardyno*u*r, Joh. Jett, Sym. P*a*rker, Tho. Burdon, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, 9 Edm. Damport, Will. Randle.]

Searchers to be chosen to seal "Cloith." 1

[Enacted] that the actes & ordina*u*nces maid at a lete in the tyme of *Maister* Burwey,10 Meire of this Citie, for the true makyng of Cloith & seallyng of the same shal-be

[1] The scribe's own gloss. [2] leaf 364, back.
[3] The title precedes the names up to note 4.
[4] Untitled. [5] Magister prefixed.
[6] "Et jur[ati sunt"] = and they were sworn. [7] leaf 365.
[8] Repeated before every name until note 9.
Untitled. [10] See above, p. 656.

frome-hensfurth *perfourmed* & kept, vpon the penalties & peynes lymyt in the same: And that too of the Craft of weyvers & too of the Craft of walkers shal-be yeirelie electe & sworne to be serchers & to make true reaport & *presentement* of eu*e*ry defaute comytted in ther occupa*ci*ons; And that also a sealer shal-be yeirelie electe & sworne to put a seall to such Cloith as shal-be truelie maid & to non other etc.

The price of "vitaill."[1]

[Enacted] that *Maister* Tho. Banwell & *Maister* Ric. Herryng, beyng assistaunce with *Maister* Meire in the order of vitaill & *prices* of the same, shall refo*u*rme the order of the fishe *Mar*ket & all other vitula*ci*on accordyng to good order etc.

Orders concerning "talow"[1]

[Enacted] that the bochers of the Citie shall sell ther talow to the inh*ab*itaunt*es* of the Citie for the *price* of ij s. iiij d. the stone, vpon peyn to forfeit for eu*e*ry stone vj s. viij d. to the shireffe*s* etc. And that the Chaundelers shall sell ther Candell after j d. ob. the li., and not to sell eny into the Contrey till the Citie be se*r*ued, vpon like peyn for eu*e*ry defaute.

and "Candell"[1]

and "ale wife*s*."[1]

Item, that the ale wives shall sell ther ale after xviij d. the Cester & xiiij galons to the Cester[2] [or 6s. 8d. at every default to the sheriffs' use].

"Ciuitas Couentri*e*."

[3][V. f. p. held on Oct. 12, 27 Hen. VIII.]

[*Maiister*[4] Hugo Lawton, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Asteleyn, Rog. Wales, Will. Smyth, Rog. Palmer, Chris. Waid, Joh. Crampe, Ric. Townesend, Jas. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardino*u*r, Joh. Jett, Sym. P*ar*ker, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, [5]Will. Randell, Will. Norton, Hugo Dalawey, Hen. Over.]

Sheriffs.

[Ric. Ley, *Mer*cer, Cuthb. Joyno*u*r, drape*r*.]

The union of "the gilde*s*."[1]

¶ Me*m*. that xx^ti^ of the Jure aboue-named[6] haue agreed that Corpus *Christi* gilde shal-be annexed & vnyte vnto the Trinitie gilde & maid boithe on after suche ordyna*a*unce as the meire, recorder & the councell of the Citie

[1] The scribe's own gloss. [2] See above, p. 713.
[3] leaf 365, back.
[4] Repeated before names until the next note.
[5] Untitled. [6] They were not unanimous then.

shall dyvyse, so that it may stand *with* the order of the lawe.[1]

[Enacted] that Candelles shal-be sold after the rait & price of j d. ob. the pounde, and talow after the rait of ij s. iiij d. the stone, vpon peyne for euery li. of Candell & euery stone of talow sold to the contrarie vj s. viij d.

Order concerning [2] "candelles & talowe."

[Enacted] that Alice Grene, Cakebaker, shall pay yierelie frome-hensfurth to the Craft of bakers xij d. toward ther charges.

[2] "Alice Grene, [3] Cakebaker."

[Enacted] that non inhabitaunt of this Citie frome hensfurth shall put or deliuer eny Cloithe to eny walker to be walked or burled, but to such walkers or burlers as be inhabite *with*in this Citie, vpon peyn who doithe the contrarie to forfeit for euery defaut vj s. viij d. to be levied by the comen seriaunt to thuse of the Cominalte of the Citie: And the said seriaunt to haue for his labour iiij d: And that the said walkers shall burle the same Cloithe *with*in the said Citie, vpon like peyne for euery Cloithe burled to the contrarie to be levied in fourme aforseid.[4]

No cloth to be fulled by [2] "walkers," who are not inhabitants of the city; offenders to pay 6*s.* 8*d.* to the use of the commonalty.

[Enacted] that euery Alderman shall electe & apoynt ij honest men *with*in euery ward to ouersee that noo man do cast eny fi[l]th in the rivers or swepe the stretes in tyme of reyne, and that thei that so doo shall forfeit for euery defaut xij d.

Concerning [2] "the River: [3] none to sweep their streets into the Chaneli in time off Raine."

JOH. JETT, MAYOR, 1536.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

[5][V. f. p. held before Joh. Jett, m., Ric. Ley, Cuthb. Joynour, b., on May 9, 28 Hen. VIII.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie."

[*Magister* [6] Will. Smyth, Jul. Nethermyll, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Asteleyn, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Ric. Townesend, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardynour, Sym. Parker, Will. Marler, Tho. Burdon, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer,

Jury.

[1] Both gilds were suppressed in 1545. The corporation re-purchased the lands etc. of the gilds and chantries in 1552 for £1,315 1*s.* 8*d.* See Corp. MS. B. 75.

[2] The scribe's own gloss. [3] A later hand.

[4] See above, p. 661. [5] leaf 367.

[6] Repeated before names until note 1 next page.

Geo. Philips, Joh. Seill, Hugo Gregorie, [1]Joh. Clerk, Joh. Thomson.]

The act for making of [2]"Cloith" to stand.

¶ [Enacted] that the acte of leet latelie maid *with*in this Citie for the *ser*chyng & seallyng and also true makyng of wollen Cloith[3] shall stand still in force & effecte, and that eu*ery* Cloithe-maker of this Citie shall soeffer & allow his Cloithe to be serched & sealled by the officers admytted for the same, vpone peyn of eu*ery* defaut vj s. viij d. to be levied by the co*m*en *ser*iaunte etc.

[2]"Cloith" to be prepared by resident fullers.

[Enacted] that the walkers belongyng to this Citee shall burle ther Clothes of this Citie *with*in the same Citie accordyng to the acte & ordina*u*nce therof maid at the last leet, vpon peynes mencioned in the same.[4]

The [2]"brewers" are ordered to brew when malt is dear, as well as when it is cheap.

Item, it is enacted that all suche in*hab*itaunt*es* as now brue or intend to brue to sell *with*in this Citie shall brue to sell now fromehensfurth as-well in the tyme of darthe of malte as in the tyme of cheip & plentie of malt, vpon peyne to forfeit for eu*ery* defaut v li. to be levied to the vse of the Meire, Co*m*in*a*ltie & Shireffe*s* of this Citie equallie to be dyuyded among*es* theme.

[2]"Craft*es*."

[5]"Euery ffreeman to hold off some Company."

[Enacted] that eu*ery* householder of this Citie, which is not associat to some Crafte, shal-be associat & bere *with* some Craft before Whitsontyde next, vpon peyne to be punysshed by the discrec*i*on of the meire, etc.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Jury.

¶ [6][V. f. p. held on Oct. 10, 28 Hen. VIII.]

[M*agister*[7] Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Rob. Kirvyn, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Ric. Townesende, Cris. Waid, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardyno*u*r, Sym. P*ar*ker, Will. Marler, Tho. Burdon, Joh. Saunders, Will. Roger*s*, Tho. Brewer, Joh. Seill, Hugo Gregorie.

Sheriffs.

[Joh. Talonte*s*, Goldesmyth, Ric. Sewall,[8] Gresier.]

[1] Untitled. [2] The scribe's own gloss. [3] See above, p. 656.
[4] See above, p. 723. [5] A later hand.
[6] leaf 367, back. [7] Repeated before all names in this list.
[8] Undoubtedly of the family of Sewall or Sewell, which furnished two mayors to Coventry, William (in 1617) and Henry (in 1606), and has even now representatives in the Old and New World. For the wills of both William and Henry see 79 Byrd, 63 Barrington (Somerset House), and for much of the subsequent history of the family, and their emigration to America see *Midl. Antiquary*, iv. 157 *sqq.*, where the publications of the Massachusetts Hist. Soc. v. are quoted.

[Ordained] that all the Brewers of this Citie, which brewe to sell, shall sell ther newe ale after the rait of xviij d. the Cester & xiiij galons to the Cester,[2] vpon peyn to forfeit for eu*e*ry defaute to the Shireffe*s* of the Citie vj s. viij d. The price of "ale,"[1] wholesale

Item, that all reteyllers & tiplers of ale of this Citie shall sell ther ale by reteyll after the rait ensuyng, That is to say, the best stale ale dronke owt of the house for ij d. the galon, and w*ith*in the house for iij d. the galon: And that the said Tiplers shall ordeyn & make ther pott*e*s & measures after the rait*e*s abouesaid w*ith*in x dayes next ensuyng this p*re*sente lete, vpone peyn to forfeit for eu*e*ry defaute vj s. viij d. to the vse aforseid. and retail. Tiplers to make "pott*e*s"[1] and mensures according to the rate.

Item, that eu*e*ry Alderma*n* in his warde frome-hensfurth yeirelie shall electe ij able Altasters & swere the same truelie to execute that office. "Aletasters.

Item, that the p*r*ice of Talow & candell shal-be assessed by M*aister* Meire frome tyme to tyme etc. "Candell."

CHRIS. WAID, MAYOR, 1537.

[3] ¶ [Election of officers.] "Ciuitas Couentr*ie*."

[M*agister*[4] Jul. Nethermyll, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Rob. Kyrvyn, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Spens*er*, Jac. Gilbert, Will. Marler, Tho. Burdon, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Joh. Seill, Hugo Gregorie, Ric. Ley, Cuthbert Joyno*ur*, [5]Joh. Clerk, Joh. Tomson.] 25 electors.

[m. Mag*ister* Chris. Waid; rec. Rog. Wigston, armig*er*; cor. Rob. Grene [6]"sub condic*i*one q*uo*d se inh*a*b*i*tet infra Com*i*t*atum* Ciui*ta*tis Couentr*ie* citra festu*m* S. Mich*ael*is arch*angeli* p*roximo*"; steward, Baldw. Porter, gene*rosus*[7]; ch. Mauricius Gilbert, drap*er*, Jac. Farmo*ur*, Rope*r*[8]; w. Arth. Gudrich, Marcer, Joh. Bolat, drap*er*; mace, Hen. Thirkell; crier, Joh. Wood.

[1] The scribe's own gloss. [2] See above, p. 722.
[3] leaf 368. [4] Repeated before names until note 5.
[5] Untitled.
[6] On condition that he shall dwell within the city before Michaelmas next.
[7] = gentleman. [8] = rope-maker.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Apr. 24.

[1] ¶ [V. f. p. held before Chris. Waid, m., Joh. Talontes, Ric. Sewall, b., on Tuesday, Apr. 24, 29 Hen. VIII.]

Jury.

[*Magister*[2] Joh. Jett, Jul. Nethermyll, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Rob. Kirvyn, Tho. Smyth, Ric. Townesend, Jac. Gilbert, Tho. Gardynour, Sym. Parker, Joh. Saunders, Geo. Philips, Joh. Seill, Hugo Gregorie, Ric. Ley, Cuthb. Joynour,[3] Maur. Gilbert, Jac. Farmour, Tho. Napton.]

The "cappers"[4]

Item, wher-as the meire, Aldermen, Beilleffes & Cominaltie of this Citie by ther wrytyng indented & sealled with ther comen seall haue graunted, given & dymysed vnto the Maisterez, kepers, fraternitie, & company of the

are to have the pageant, pageant-house and chapel formerly belonging to the cardmakers.

Craft of Cappers of this Citie the pagyaunt & pagyaunt-house, which was latelie surrendered & given vpp by wrytyng to theme by the ffraternitie & company of Cardemakers & sadelers, It is nowe enacted by auctoritie of this lete that the seid fraternitie & company of Cappers shall enyoy the seid pagiaunt, pagiaunt-house & Chappell accordyng to the tenour of the seid wrytyng indented etc.

"Ale-tasters & ale wives."[4]

Item, it is enacted (etc.) that euery Alderman of this Citie in his warde shall electe & apoynt too ale-tasters in euery warde or moo if nede be; And that euery Brewer that breweth to sell shall sell ther ale after the rait of xviij d. the Cester & xiiij galons to the Cester, vpon peyn of forfeyture of vj s. viij d. to the Shireffes, and that the seid brewer shall send to the seid ale-tasters & requyre theme to tast ther ale before thei sell or vtter the same, vpon peyn of iij s. iiij d. to be levied to the vse of the Shireffes by distres at euery suche defaut.

Candles 1½*d.* a lb.

[5][Enacted] *that*[6] no man shall sell candell aboue j d. qua.[7] the lb., vpon peyn to be grevouslie amercied.

Tallow.

Item, *that*[6] no talow shal-be sold owt of this Citie by eny bocher of the same vntill the Citie be serued, vpon peyn of ij s. the Stone.

[1] leaf 368, back.
[2] Repeated before each name as far as note 3.
[3] Untitled.
[4] The same or a contemporary handwriting.
[5] leaf 369.
[6] "þ" is here written like "y."
[7] = quadrans, a farthing.

Searchers of "Clothyng" to execute their office.

Item, that the serchers of the weivers & serchers of walkers shall execute ther offices for the true makyng & ordryng of Cloith, vpon peyn of eu*e*ry sercher to forfeit vj s. viij d. to the shireffe*s*.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Oct. 16. Jury of 25.

[1][V. f. p. held on Tuesday, Oct. 16, 29 Hen. VIII.]

*Ma*gister[2] Joh. Jett, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Tho. Wilmer, Ric. Townesend, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardyno*u*r, Sym. P*a*rker, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rog*e*rs, Tho. Brewer, Joh. Seill, Cuthb. Joyno*u*r, [3] Maur. Gilbert, Jac. Farmo*u*r, Art. Gudriche, Joh. Bowlat.]

Sheriffs.

[Hen. Over, m*e*rcer, Chris. Waren, drap*e*r.]

"walkers."[4]

[Enacted] that the hedd M*a*ister of the Craft of walkers shal-be alwey inh*a*bited w*i*thin this Citie duryng the tyme of his office: And that on Tho. Glegg shal-be hedd M*a*ister this yeire, and Alex. Howe of Stoneley the vnder M*a*ister.[5]

"Ale wifes."[6]

Also it is enacted (etc.) that all brewers shall sell ther best ale after the rait of xviij d. the Cester, & not aboue, and xiiij galons to the Cester: And also that the tipelers shall sell ther ale owt of ther doores after the rait of ij d. ob. the galon, & w*i*thin the dores after iij d. the galon, vpon peyn to forfeit for eu*e*ry defaut vj s. viij d. to be levied by distresse by the Shireffe*s* to ther own vse.

"Reed diche."[7]

[7]Also it is enacted (etc.) that all men that haue eny draught*e*s vpon the Reed-diche shall put down & take away the same before the feast of All Seynt*e*s next, vpon peyn to forfeit for euery draught xx s. to be leuyed as is aforseid.

WILL. COTEN, MAYOR, 1538.

"Ciuitas Couentr*ie*."

[8][Election of officers.]

Electors.

[M*a*gister[9] Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Tho. Smyth, Joh.

[1] leaf 369, back. [2] Repeated before all names as far as note 3.
[3] Untitled. [4] The same or a contemporary handwriting.
[5] This looks as if a union had been made of resident and non-resident fullers. See for "foreign" fullers p. 723, *et passim.*
[6] The same handwriting. [7] leaf 370. [8] leaf 370, back.
[9] Repeated before each name as far as note 1, p. 728.

Cramp, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Sym. Parker, Joh. Saunders, Tho. Brewer, Joh. Seill, Joh. Talontes, Ric. Sewall, Will. Marler, Will. Rogers, Ric. Ley, Georg[e] Philips, Cuthbert Joynour, [1] Maur. Gilbert, Jac. Fermour, Jac. Rogers.]

Officers. [m. *Magister* Will. Coton, mercer; rec. Rog. Wigston, armiger; cor. Rob. Grene, "so that he shall dwell within the city before the feast of the Nativity of S. John Baptist next"; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Ric. Hurt, mercer, Tho. Wheteley, Cardemaker; w. Mart. Ridell, Tho. Diglyn; mace, Hen. Thirkyll; crier, Joh. Wood.]

LEET.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." [2] [V. f. p. held before Will. Coton, m., Hen. Over, Chris. Waren, b., on Thursday, May 10, 30 Hen. VIII.]

Jury of 27. [*Magister* [3] Tho. Banwell, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Rob. Kirvyn, Joh. Jett, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Cramp, Tho. Wilmer, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardynour, Sym. Parker, Tho. Burdon, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Joh. Seill, Ric. Ley, Cuthb. Joynour, Ric. Sewall, [4] Ric. Hurt.]

The "Redd-diche" [5] ["Ordeyned"] that all persones haivyng or vsyng eny draughtes or other anoyaunces vpon or nygh the Reed-dyche, or eny sluses or other conveyaunces of water or filthe frome eny draughtes into the said Reed-diche, shall take vpp, remove & vtterlie adnull the same before the Assencion of our Lord God now next comyng, vpon peyn to forfeit for euery defaut xx s. to be levied by distresse by the shireffes, the on half therof to ther own vse, & the other half to the vse of the comen box; and that Joh. Borresley, Will. Wightman, Joh. Stele, & Ant. Giller shall haue the ouersight of the execucion of this acte. And that the Chamberleyns of the Citie immediatlie after the removyng & avoydyng of the said draughtes & anoyaunces shall Scoure the said diche frome the Micheparke Streit vnto the Jourden Well etc. And that non inhabit-

is to be [6] "scowred by the Chamberlins."

[1] Untitled. [2] leaf 371.
[3] Repeated before all names until note 4. [4] Untitled.
[5] In the same handwriting. [6] In later hand.

aunt of this Citie after the feast of the Assencion of our Lord God now next ensuyng shall cast eny filthe or other anoyaunce into the said diche, ner shall mak or sett eny drauughtes (*sic*) ouer or nygh the same diche, vpon peyn of xx s. to be levyed to the vse aforseid. No filth to be cast into the "Red diche."

[Enacted] that no bocher, ner non other inhabitaunt of this Citie, shall sell eny talowe before the feast of Eister next aboue the price of ij s. iiij d. the Stone, ner shall sell eny talow out of the Citie before the seid feast, vpon peyn to forfeit for euery Stone xx s. to the vse aforseid. No butcher to sell any "talowe" before Easter above ij s. iiij d. the stone.

[2][Enacted] that no persone or persones of this Citie frome-hensfurthe shall make or cause to be maid eny Capp or Cappes Spone or maid of Cloithe yarne, vpon peyn of forfeyture of the said Capp or cappes: and that it shal-be laufull to euery person of this Citie to seasse & take the same to his own vse: and that the makers of the same shall haue punyshement of ther bodyes by the pilorie, or otherwise, at the discrecion of the Justices of peace. No [1]"Cappes" to be made of yarn.

COMMON LANDS.

Where-as the Meire, beilleffes & Cominaltie, Citizens & inhabitauntes of the Citie of Couentre, & ther predicessoures by title of prescripcion & by auncient tyme owt of mynde haue hadd & haue the yeirelie vsage & exercise of common of pastures with ther beastes & catalles frome Lammas day to Candelmasse day of & in certayne Closez & pastures lying & beying within the circuit of the Shire, ffraunches & liberties of the said Citie, which Closez & pastures by the vsage of the said Common and by the yeirelie rydyng of the Chamberleyns of the said Citie to clayme & make gappes & weyes to the same be well & perfitelie knowen to the said Citizens, Commoners & inhabitauntes: And for-asmoche as it is noo well & perfitelie knowen to the same Citizens & inhabitauntes that the greatest nomber of theme take & haue no benefites, vsage, ner profite of the said Comon of pasture, and that neny of those persones that do take the vsage, [1]"The commons about the Citie" are well and perfectly known, though the greater part of the inhabitants have no profit of the same;

[1] In the same or a contemporary hand. [2] leaf 371, back.

and those who have surcharge them,

benefite & profite of the said Common do mysvse & surcharge the same contrarie to the auncient orders & good custumes of the said Citie, ffor reformacion wherof & to theintent that a vniuersall profite & commoditie may come & be hadd to all the said Citizens & Cominalte of the said Common Closez, the said Cominalte by the license, assent & consent of Will. Coton, now beyng meire of the said Citie, & of his bretherne, the Aldermen of the same, haue elected, named, admytted & chosen ffiftie persones of the said Cominaltie, that is to say, in euery warde of the seid Citie five discreit & credible persones to speke, conclude & doo as thei shall thynk best & moost convenient for the reformacion of the premissez to the effect & intent aforseid: which fiftie persones haue not onelie by good deliberacion reasoned & debated the said matters amonges themselfes & with the said meire & aldermen, but also thei haue perused[1] & viewed all the said Closez to se howe meny of [2] theme may be permytted & soeffered to lie & be seuerall all the yeire for a reasonable rent to be payed yeirelie for the same to the vse & behove of all the said Cominaltie, leavyng sufficient common to the said Commoners in other of the said Common Closez.

it is therefore ordained that 50 persons,

5 in each ward,

be chosen to make a scheme for dealing with the same commons for the general profit.

"The acte." "Commen ground seuerall." Whereupon

And therupon for the good gouernaunce, rule & conseruacion of the said Cominaltie & commoners and for the vniuersall profit & commoditie of the same, the said Meire, Aldermen, & the said fiftie persones with the assent & consent as well of the said Cominaltie as of the enheritoures & freholders of the said Closez with other now assembled, haue concorded, concluded & agreed, And also haue ordeyned, enacted & constituted by auctoritie of this presente lete, And by auctorite of the grauntes & liberties to the said Citie graunted by the kyng our souereign lorde & diuers his progenytoures, concernyng the premisses in manour & fourme followyng: That is to say, that all suche of the said Closez & pastures as the said fiftie persones haue named, assigned & appoynted, & hereafter expressed & wrytten, shall lie & be seuerall at all tymes fromehensfurthe duryng all the said tyme of Common for suche a reasonable rent to be payed yierelie

it is enacted by Leet

that the closes named by the fifty persons shall be several all times of the year, a reasonable rent being paid to the

[1] = gone over. [2] leaf 372.

for the same to the vse of the said Co*m*inaltie as the same fiftie p*er*sones haue lymyted & sett vpon the same Closez & pastures. use of the community.

ffurst, a Close called the Myree feild[1] by yeire xxiij s. iiij d. 23*s.* 4*d.*

Item, the Peny feilde*s*[2] in the holding of *Maister* Lawton by yeire . . . . . xv s. 15*s.* 0*d.*

Item, Maister Wales feild by yeire . . . vj s. viij d. 6*s.* 8*d.*

Item, Maisteres Clerke*s* feild by yeir . . . . x s. 10*s.* 0*d.*

Item, the Corner feild & a medow at the ende of it in the holdyng of Joh. [3]Yerdeley by yeir . . vj s. viij d. 6*s.* 8*d.*

Item, a feild next Maister Wales feild by yeire . viij s. 8*s.* 0*d.*

Item, the quarell feild by Horsall side by yeire vj s. viij d. 6*s.* 8*d.*

Item, v feilde*s* called Whaberleyes[4] by yeir . . xl s. "ij Closez." 40*s.* 0*d.*

Item, the Black Croft[5] by yeir . . . . . ij s. 2*s.* 0*d.*

Item, a feild next the Steppyng Stones by yeir . xx d. 20*d.*

Item, a feild next to it by yeire . . . . . v s. 5*s.* 0*d.*

Item, *Maister* Merlers feild by yeire . . . . iiij s. 4*s.* 0*d.*

Item, half the iiij li. feilde*s* in the ij great feilde*s* next Assho by yeire[6] . . . . . xxvj s. viij d. 26*s.* 8*d.*

Item, the Thistell-feild[6] & the Ric feild by yeire xiij s. iiij d. 13*s.* 4*d.*

Item, the ij ouermoost of Botma*n*s acre[7] . xiij s. iiij d. 13*s.* 4*d.*

Item, the Chilter-leyes[8] by yeire . . . . . xvj s. 16*s.* 0*d.*

Item, iij feilde*s* of *Maister* Kebeelle*s* by yeir . xv s. 15*s.* 0*d.*

[9]Item, the pytfeilde*s* by yeire . . . . . v s. 5*s.* 0*d.*

Item, a medow at the ende of it . . . . . iiij s. 4*s.* 0*d.*

Item, the Holowe-wey-feild[10] by yeire . . . . viij s. 8*s.* 0*d.*

Item, Pycarde*s* Croft by yeire . . . . . iiij s. 4*s.* 0*d.*

Item, Barkers-leys[10] by yeire . . . . . xx s. 20*s.* 0*d.*

Item, the overmoost Shokemoore[11] by yeire . . iiij s. 4*s.* 0*d.*

Item, the nethermoost Shokemore by yeire . . v s. 5*s.* 0*d.*

Item, the Stripp beyonde the Steppyng Stones by yeir . . . . . ij s. 2*s.* 0*d.*

[1] See above, pp. 440, 576. [2] See p. 48.
[3] This scribe puts the same sign for I, Y, and very frequently J.
[4] See p. 50. [5] "Blake Orchard," p. 49.
[6] See Inclosure Award, 1860. [7] See pp. 4, 51.
[8] See p. 51. [9] leaf 372, back. [10] See Inclosure Award, 1860.
[11] See "Sugmore Croftes," p. 52.

5*s.* 0*d.* Item, *Maister* Kirvynse feild by yeire . . . . v s.

6*s.* 0*d.* Item, the feild next it . . . . . vj s.

15*s.* 0*d.* Item, a feild called Picardypere[1] . . . . . xv s.

Item, the Wardense feild at Harnall-bridge by yeire

4*s.* 0*d.* iiij s.

10*s.* 0*d.* Item, ij feild*es* called Byllynge*s*feild*es* by yeire[2] x s.

2*s.* 0*d.* Item, a litell Croft next theme by yeir . . . ij s.

Item, the Kynge*s*-feild*es* or Ludlowe-feildes at Gosford

15*s.* 0*d.* Grene by yeire[3] . . . . . xv s.

Item, the Quarell-feild ageynst the Charter*h*ouse by

15*s.* 0*d.* yeir . . . . . xv s.

23*s.* 4*d.* Item, Barnes-feild*es*[4] by yeir. . . . . xxiij s. iiij d.

5*s.* 0*d.* Item, a medowe at Warynge*s* Milne . . . . v s.

Item, a medowe & a litle Croft at the Milne in the holl

5*s.* 0*d.* by yeir . . . . . v s.

Item, a medowe at Jeffreyes Milne[5] & the orchard to

it by yeir. . . . . [6]

12*d.* Item, the Goosse Croft[7] at Radford by yeir . . xij d.

Item, a Close called the Sholder of mutton[7] with the

26*s.* 8*d.* house at the Hill Crosse . . . . . xxvj s. viij d.

The Some of all the rents of the said Closez & pastures

£18 18*s.* 8*d.* doith amount vnto. . . . . xviij li. xviij s. viij d.

[8] "Peyne xx s." And it is also enacted by the auctoritie aforseid that all the said Citi*z*ens & inha*b*itaunte*s* frome-hensfurthe yeirelie duryng all the said tyme of Comon shall pe*r*mytt & soeffer all the said Closez & pastures before-wrytten to lie & be seue*r*all & enclosed to & for the vse & behove of suche & [9]those pe*r*sones which at eny tyme hereafter shall take & haue theme, or eny of theme, in ferme accordyng to the teno*u*r & intent of this p*r*esente ordyn-a*u*nce, acte & constitu*c*ion, So that the fermo*u*re*s* of the same may peasiblie take & haue the herbage & p*r*ofitte*s* therof wi*th*out lett or distu*r*baunce of the said Co*m*inaltie, or eny of theme; And that all suche Closes as shall lie

The people are warned that the above-named pastures are to be held in severalty.

[8] "Certain pastures

[1] See p. 53. [2] See p. 46.

[3] See p. 46. Traditionally called after Richard II because it was there that in 1397 the king forbade Mowbray and Bolingbroke to engage in combat.

[4] ? Barons-fyld, see p. 350. [5] (?) See "Geffrey feild," p. 11.

[6] blank. [7] See Inclosure Award, 1860.

[8] In the same handwriting. [9] leaf 373.

common to the said Citizense shal-be permytted & vsed to lie in pasture & not vsed in tillage & sowen with corne,[1] vpon peyne of euery of the said inhabitauntes wilfullie doyng or commaundyng eny acte to be doon to the contrarie to forfeit for euery suche defaute xx s., the same forfeyture to be levyed & taken of the said offendoures by attachement & imprisonement of ther bodies or distreynyng of ther goodes, vntill thei doo pay the said peyne & forfeyture vnto the meire of the seid Citie for the tyme beyng: And the same attachement or distresse to be doon by the said meire or by suche officers or constables as the said meire shall assigne & appoynt to & for the same: And the on half of the same forfeyture shal-be put in a Comen box to the vse & behove of the said Cominaltie, And the other half, or asmoche therof as the said meire shall thynk convenyent, shal-be payed to the farmour or farmoures of the pastures or Closez so tilled or sowen in recompense of ther losse & damages susteyned in that behalf, And the residue to be put in the said box to the comen vse aforseid.

not to be sowen

on peyn of

xx s.",

half to the common box,

half to the farmers of the closes.

Also it is further enacted, ordeyned & constituted by auctoritie aforseid concernyng the premissez that the said Closez & pastures, lymytted & appoynted to be maid seuerall, shalbe lett & sett to farme by tene men of the said Cominaltie, That is to say of euery warde of the said Citie on man, which shall haue auctoritie & power to lett & sett to farme the said Closez & pastures for the terme & tyme of ix yeires or vnder & not aboue, frome the feast of Lammas next ensuyng this presente lete, takyng of the farmoures therof an obligacion to be maid in due fourme of the lawe, wherin thei shal-be bound to iij or iiij of the said tene men in a more some then the rent, to pay ther rent yeirelie at seynt Valentynes day accordyng to [2]the said bonde. And that thei shall till & sowe the same pastures & Closez so appoynted to be seuerall at ther pleasures, So that thei leave the same at thende of the seid ix yeires with grene sord of the age of

"The order to lett & sett."

The closes are to be let by 10 men, 1 man from each ward,

on a 9 years' lease

at a yearly rent payable on S. Valentine's day.

"For payment of the Rentes."

[1] Apparently this refers to arable encroachments on the common lands, see pp. 719–20.

[2] leaf 373, back.

The present freeholders are to be preferred before other possible tenants.

two yeires at the leaste, And that those *per*sones that have now in farme the free-holders *par*te of the said Closez shal-be *pre*ferred before other to haue in farme the said Co*min*alties *par*te[1] paying the rent in fo*ur*me aforseid.

"The accompt" is to be presented on Mar. 26,

And also that the said tene men or the *ser*vyvo*ures* of theme shall yeierlie bryng in & make before the meire & aldermen of the said Citie for the tyme beyng ther accompt*es* & the money due & comyng of the said rent*es* vpon the morowe after the feast of the Annu*n*ciac*i*on of our Ladie seynt Marie, if it be not Sonday or verey nigh Eister, And then the said accompt to be maid at suche day as the seid meire & Aldermen shall appoynt: At which accompt & payme*n*t of the said rent ther shal-be deliu*er*ed & allowed to the seid x men xx s. of the said Rent*es* to be spent for a brekefast or a recreac*i*on after the same Accompt maid at discrec*i*on of the said meire & aldermen.

20*s.* being allowed for a breakfast or recreation after delivery of the accounts.

And the money that shall rise & come vpon the said Accompt*es* shall then be put into the said Co*m*en box, and shal-be bestowed to the vniu*er*sall p*ro*fite, ease & comm*o*ditie of the said Co*min*altie in manou*r* & fo*ur*me folowyng, That is to say, ffor the gen*er*all & co*m*en payment*es* which hereafter shal-be & ought to be payed by the Co*min*altie of the said Citie as fivetenes & suche other co*m*m*o*n charges.

[2] "To what vse the rent*es* shal-be applyed."

And the said box shall alweyes remayne in the Treasoure-house in Seynt Marie hall, and be locked w*ith* v keyes, wherof ij keyes shall alweyes remeane in the custodie of the said meire & aldermen; and the residue of the said keyes shall alweyes remeane in the custodie of the said x men. And if eny of theme fortune to die then the said meire & Aldermen [3] to electe & chose other of the same warde to be in his or ther Steid for the receit of the said Rent*es* & makyng of the said Accompt*es*.

[2] "The box & keyes."

Any one of the ten dying is to be replaced,

And after thende of the said leasse & te*r*me of ix

[1] *i. e.* those that hold the land during the "several" season from Candlemas to Lammas are to have the first chance of renting the commonable rights during the season between Lammas and Candlemas.

[2] In the same handwriting. [3] leaf 374.

yeires & at the last Accomptes of & for the said Rentes The said meire & Aldermen by the assent of the seid tene mene shall electe, name & chose other tene men, in euery warde oon, which shal-be then charged and shall haue like auctoritie to lett & sett the said Closez for other ix yeires as is before lymyted & assigned to the said first x men. And that euery of the said accomptauntes defectyue in his accompt, or payment of the said Rentes by hyme received, shal-be punysshed by impresonment by the commaundement of the seid meire as a disturbour & an enymy of the comen-welth of the said Citie vntill he haue maid due satisfaccion & recompense for his said offence.

and a fresh set to be chosen at the end of 9 years.

Defaulters to be punished.

Also it is further enacted, ordeyned & constituted by auctoritie aforseid that no Commoner, or inhabitauntes of the said Citie shall haue comen within the said liberties for or with eny other kyndes of Beasse or catall, or with eny mo beasse or catall then with two Milche kyen & on geldyng, or two geldynges & oon Mi[l]che cowe; except onelie the bochers of the said Citie, which vse vitulacion, who shall & may common euery of theme with fivtene sheipp ouer & besides the Stynt abouelymytted, vpon peyne of euery persone passyng or brekyng the said order & stynt to forfeit & pay for euery tyme so doyng xij d. to the vse of the Chamberleynse of the said Citie. And that the said Chamberleynse shall not lett ner sett the said commons, ner eny part of theme, [3]to farme, or give eny libertie or auctoritie to eny persone to breke the said stynt, vpon peyn to forfeit for euery tyme that thei so do xx s. to the comen box of the said Citie.

[1] "The stynt of Catall." [1]

[2] "2 melsh kine and one Guelding or two Gueldings and one melsh Cow. Butchers to haue 15 sheep [on the] Comons besides the said stint." [2]

The chamberlains are [1] "not to lett the comons to farme." [1]

The names of the tene men appoynted to lett & sett the said Closez & to gether the rentes of the same for the first ix yeires.

Gosford-stret warde: Joh. Bowlat, draper.
Much-parke-Streit warde: Will. Beilie, draper.
Jourden-well warde: Ric. Wightman, thelder.
Erle-streit warde: Tho. Enderby, barbour.
Beilie-lane warde: Rauf Hopkynse, Tayllour.

[1–1] In the same hand as the text. [2–2] A later hand.
[3] leaf 374, back.

Broid-[1]*Yait warde :* Joh. Clerke, Coriour.
Croschepyng warde : Hugh Dalawarr, mercer.
Smythford-stret warde : Rauf Dale, [1]Inholder.
Spone-stret warde : Jas. Farmour, Grasier.
Bisshop stret warde : Philipp Shirrerd, draper.

[2] The names of the fiftie men which haue viewed & appoynted owt the Closez & pastures before-wrytten to be seuerall & enclosed.

Gorforde (*sic*) Streit warde.

Joh. Bowlat, draper, Joh. Lawton, Capper, Tho. Sconse, Capper, Clement Temple, dier, Ric. Collynse, Shirman.

Myche-parke Streit warde.

Will. Ruddyng, Clothier, Tho. Keyvett, Sherman, Will. Beilie, draper, Owyn Blakemer, weyver, Joh. Nicolles, Sherman.

Jourden Well warde.

Joh. Hill, Capper, Ric. Wightman, thelder, Ric. Baguley, tayllour, Joh. Annesley, yoman, Joh. Borresley, Capper.

Erle-stret warde.

Joh. Chambers, Capper, Martyne Ridell, mercer, Will. Stirropp, flecher,[3] Tho. Seny, draper, Tho. Enderby, barbour.

Beilie lane warde.

Henrie Hynde, mercer, Rauf. Hopkynse, Taillour, Olyver Forest, poticarie, Joh. West, Goldesmyth, Joh. Grene, mercer.

[4] Broid Yait warde.

[5] Chris. Wharton, Skynner, Joh. Clerk, Coriour, Tho. Saunders, Capper, Mourice Appowell, draper, Tho. Diglyng, mercer.

Croschepyng warde.

Hugh Dalawarr, mercer, Jas. Rogers, vyntener, Guy Speke, Inholder, Tho. Saunders, bocher, Will. Vnderwood, Coruiser.

[1] This scribe's "Y," "I" and "J" are identical. [2] leaf 375.
[3] "Pet. Browne" deleted. [4] leaf 375, back. [5] Xpofer.

Smythford Streit ward.

Arture Gudriche, m*er*cer, Rauf Dale, Inholder, Tho. Cotes, dier, Tho. Busterd, Inholder, Tho. Morres, drap*er*.

Spone-streit ward.

Jas. ffarmo*ur*, Gresier, Will. Norton, dier, Hugh Bloure, whittawer, Ric. Smyth, Sherman, Joh. Eyburn, Tanner.

Bisshop-st*re*t ward.

Will. Kelyngworth, bocher, Joh. Wall, weyver, Tho. Owres, baker, Henrie Collynse, bocher, Philipp Shirrerd, drap*er*.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

[[1] V. f. p. held on Oct. 8, 30 Hen. VIII.] "Ciuitas Couentr*ie*." Jury of 27.

[M*agister*[2] Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Rob. Kirwyn, Joh. Jett, Chris. W*a*id, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Smyth, Jas. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Gardyno*ur*, Sym. P*ar*ker, Will. M*ar*ler, Tho. Burdon, Joh. Saunders, Will. Roger*s*, Tho. Brewer, Joh. Seill, Ric. Ley, Cuthb. Joyno*ur*, Joh. Talonte*s*, Ric. Sewall, Tho. Smyth, drap*er*.]

[Joh. Herford, Tann*er*, Hug. Bloure, whittawer.] Sheriffs.

SIM. PARKER, MAYOR, 1539.

[3] [Election of officers.] "Ciuitas Couentr*ie*." Electors.

[M*agister*[4] Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Tho. Dodd, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hug. Lawton, Rog. Palm*er*, Rob. Kyrvyn, Joh. Jett, Chris. W*a*id, Tho. Gardyno*ur*, Tho. Burdon, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Ric. Ley, Cuth. Joyno*ur*, Joh. Talonte*s*, Ric. Sewall, Her. Over, Chris. Waren, [5] Rad. Dale, Ric. Hurt, Tho. Diglyng, Maur. Ridell.]

[m. Magis*t*er Sym. P*ar*ker, Gresier[6]; rec. Rog. Wigston, ar*miger*; cor. Rob. Grene; steward, Baldewinn Porter; ch. Tho. Saunders, sen., Gresier, Rob. Colm*an*, Cowp*er*; w. Ric. Warno*ur*, barbo*ur*, Tho. Owres, baker; mace, Hen. Thirkell; crier, Joh. Wood.] Officers.

[1] leaf 377.
[2] Repeated before each name, but perhaps deleted before the last.
[3] leaf 377, back. [4] Repeated before each name until note 5.
[5] Untitled. [6] Probably also a butcher, see p. 738.

[And because the said S. Parker is a common victualler[1] they elected Master R. Herryng and Master C. Joynour to assist the said mayor in fixing the price of victuals.]

Et *pro* eo *quod* dict*us* Sim. *Par*ker est *communis* victu[a]lar*ius*[1] eligerunt (*sic*) in assisten*tes dicti* Maioris *pro* taxac*ione precii* victual*ium* M*agistrum* Ric. Herryng, & M*agistrum* Cuth. Joynour, et Jur*ati sunt*.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Apr. 22.

[2]¶ [V. f. p. held before Sym. Parker, m., Joh. Herford, Hug. Bloure, b., on Tuesday, Apr. 22, 30 Hen. VIII.]

Jury of 25.

¶ [*Magister*[3] Ric. Herryng, Tho. Astelen, Rog. Wales, Hug. Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Chris. Waid, Tho. Gardynour, Ric. Townesend, Joh. Cramp, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Cuth. Joynour, Joh. Talontes, Ric. Sewall, Hen. Over, Chris. Waren, [4]Tho. Saunders, Rob. Colman, Jac. Rogers, Ric. Niclyn, Hug. Dalawey.]

To no [5]"weyvers" shall work be given unless he belongs to the craft of weavers of the city, or 6*s.* 8*d.* fine.

[Enacted] that non inhabitaunte of this Citie fromehensfurthe shall put eny lynyn or wollen Yarne to be woven to eny weyver of the Citie or of the contrey oneles the same weyver be a brother admytted & associat with the weyuers of the Citie, vpon peyn to forfeit for euery tyme so offendyng vj s. viij d., the on half therof to be to the Shireffes for the tyme beyng, & the other half to the Masterz of the said Craft of weyvers, & to be levyed by way of distresse, etc.[6]

[7]"The comen."

[Enacted] that the Actes latelie maid for the order of the comen & of the comen grounde*s* enclosed shall stand & bee in full strenght & duelie put in execution accordyng to the tenur of the same actes, etc.[8]

Constables

[Enacted] that fromehensfurthe the seriaunte*s* that shall warne the comen watche of this Citie shall furst begyn to warne the said watche at seynt Margettes Chappell[9] & kepe the southe side of the Streit, and so to

[1] *v.* note 6, p. 737. [2] leaf 378.
[3] Repeated before each name until note 4.
[4] Untitled. [5] The same scribe's handwriting.
[6] See above, p. 723. [7] The same handwriting.
[8] See above, p. 729.
[9] This chapel, with which was connected a hermitage (see above, p. 118), was afterwards converted into a tithe-barn. It stood outside Gosford Gate.

go thorought the Citie in euery Streit as the holie Cake [1] goith. And that the Constable of the warde shall go euery nyght *with* the *ser*iaunt to warne the watche & shall haue for his labour ij d. to warne the watche."

[2] [V. f. p. held on Oct. 7, 31 Hen. VIII.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Oct. 6. Jury.

[*Magister* [3] Will. Coton, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Tho. Gardynour, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Burdon, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Ric. Ley, Cuth. Joynour, Joh. Talontes, Ric. Sewall, Chris. Waren, [4] Tho. [5] Saunders,[5] [6] Tho. Riley, [7] Tho. Owres.]

[Tho. Smyth, draper, Will. Colman, fisshemonger.] Sheriffs.

¶ [Decreed] that Edw. Smyth, *ser*iaunt to the Shireffes, shal-be dismyssed & discharged of his office of *ser*iauntshipp; And that Joh. Cragges, late put owt of the same office shal-be admytted to haue & occupie the seid office etc. [8] "Changing serjants."

¶ [Enacted] that no bocher or vitaillour frome-hensfurthe shall sell eny vitaill of fleshe *with*in this Citie but onelie in the comon bochery. And that no man shall sell or kyll eny fleshe *with*in the Citie except he be brother *with* the bochers & admytted as oon of that felishipp, vpon peyn of xl s. to be levied by distresse to the vse of the Shireffes. [9] "bochers" to sell flesh except in the Butchery. All butchers to belong to the craft.

[10] [Enacted] that no man *with*in this Citie shall sell eny talowe aboue the price of ij s. iiij d. the stone, ner convey no talowe to be sold owt of the town, vpon peyne to forfeit for euery defaut vj s. viij d. to the vse of the Shireffes to be levyed in forme aforseid. [9] "Talow" to be sold at 2*s.* 4*d.* the stone.

[Enacted] that no Inholder or alehouse-keper shall frome-hensfurth permytt or suffer eny person or persones of this Citie to sitt or be in ther housez at brekefastes or drynkynges at Matyns, high masse or evensong tymes on the Sondays or holydayes [or 3*s.* 4*d.* each time to the sheriffs.] [11] "For drynkyng in service tyme [11] [12] on saboth days." [12]

[1] See p. 669. [2] leaf 378, back.
[3] Repeated before all names until note 4.
[4] "*Magister*" here deleted.
[5–5] Surname deleted. "S" follows.
[6] "*Magister*" here appears to be deleted. [7] Untitled.
[8] In a later hand. [9] The same handwriting. [10] leaf 379.
[11–11] The same handwriting. [12–12] In a later hand.

THO. GARDYNOUR, MAYOR, 1540.

¶ [Election of officers.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Jan. 25. Jury.

¶ [*Magister*[1] Hugo Lawton, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Wales, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Tho. Burdon, Joh. Cramp, Tho. Spens*er*, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rog*ers*, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Ric. Ley, Joh. Talont*es*, Ric. Sewall, Chris. Waren, Joh. Herford, Hugo Bloure, [2]Tho. Saunders, Rob. Colma*n*.]

Officers.

[m. Mag*ister* Tho. Gardyno*ur*, baker; Tho. Banwell and Chris. Waren are chosen to be the mayor's assistants in assessing the price of victuals, because the same Tho. Gardyno*ur* is a common baker; rec. Rog. Wigston; ch. Tho. Kyrvyn, fisshemong*er*, Hen. Godson, Coruis*er*; w. Ric. Giller, m*er*cer, Tho. Sconse, capp*er*; mace, Hen. Thirkyll; crier, Joh. Wood.]

EASTER LEET.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Apr. 13. Jury.

[3]¶ [V. f. p. held before Tho. Gardyno*ur*, m., Tho. Smyth, Will. Colman, b., Apr. 13, 31 Hen. VIII.]

[M*agister*[4] Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Wales, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Sym. Parker, Tho. Burdon, Ric. Townesend, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rog*ers*, Tho. Brewer, Ric. Ley, Cuth. Joyno*ur*, Ric. Sewall, Hen. Over, Chris. Waren, Hugo Bloure, [5]Tho. Kyrvyn, [6]Hen. Godson, Will. Norton & Tho. Keveit.]

The "bakers" are "not to sell bread, nor Any persons to buy before the mayor or his deputy do weigh it."[7]

[Enacted] that no baker of the Contrey bryngyng bred to this Citie to be sold shall deliu*er* or put to sale eny suche bred before it be weyed by the meire or his deputies: Ner that no Citi3ene here shall receive or by eny suche bred before it be weyd, vpon peyn of eu*ery* baker to forfeit ij s. And eu*ery* Citi3en to forfeit xij d. for eu*ery* tyme offendyng.

"Ale"

¶ [Enacted] at this lett that no brewer of this Citie shall sell eny ale above xviij d. the Cester & xiiij galons to the Cester: And that no Tipler sell or vtter eny ale

[1] Repeated as far as note 2. [2] Untitled. [3] leaf 379, back.
[4] Repeated as far as note 6. [5] "M*agister*" apparently deleted.
[6] Untitled. [7] Gloss in different hands.

*with*in ther house aboue ij d. the galon, ner owt of ther house aboue j d. ob. the galon, vpon peyne for eu*ery* brewer to forfeit for eu*ery* defaut vj s. viij d., and eu*ery* Typler iij s. iiij d., to be levyed by the shireffe*s* to ther own vse. to be sold at 2*d.* a gallon within doors and 1½*d.* out of doors.

¶ [Enacted that butchers are only to sell flesh in the Butchery or Market-place, or 20*s.* fine to be levied as aforesaid.] The "bocheers" to sell meat in the Butchery.

TENTHS AND FIFTEENTHS.

"Ciuitas Couentrie."

[1] Record*a* de xv.

[Particulars of the account of T. Gregorie and R. Walker, collectors of the first whole fifteenth and tenth of the four fifteenths and tenths granted to the lord king, Hen. VIII, from the laity in the 32nd year of his reign (1540), in the city of Coventry and the county of the same.]

¶ P*a*rticule Comput*i* (*sic*) Thome Gregorie & Ric*ardi* Walker, Collec-*torum* p*ri*me integre xv^{e} & x^{e} quattuor (*sic*) xv^{arum} & x^{arum}, d*o*mino Regi Henrico octauo a laicis anno regni sui xxxij^{o} concess*arum* in Ciuitate Couentr*ie* & Com*itatu* eiusd*em*.[2]

[3] Deducc*iones*. [4] Rem*anentes* clare.

¶ Gosford-streit Warde.	ij s.	[v li. xiiij s.][5]	2*s.*
Jo*ur*den-wel warde.	ij s. iiij d.	[xvij s. viij d.][5]	2*s.* 4*d.*
Miche-p*ar*ke Streit ward.	ij s. iiij d.	[viij li. xvij s. viij d.][5]	2*s.* 4*d.*
Bailie-lane warde.	xx d.	[iij li. xviij s. viij d.][5]	1*s.* 8*d.*
Erle-streit ward.	ij s.	[vj li. xviij s.][5]	2*s.*
[6] Croschepyng[6] warde.	ij s. viij d.	[viij li. xvij s. iiij d.][5]	2*s.* 8*d.*
Broid Yait ward.	xx d.	[viij li. viij s. iiij d.][5]	1*s.* 8*d.*
Smythford-streit ward.	ij s. viij d.	[viij li. xvij s. iiij d.][5]	2*s.* 8*d.*
Spone Streit ward.	ij s. viij d.	[iiij li. xvij s. iiij d.][5]	2*s.* 8*d.*
Bishop-streit ward.	ij s. viij d.	[vj li. viij s. iiij d.][5]	2*s.* 8*d.*
Su*m*ma t*ot*al*is* l li.	Su*m*ma deduc*cionum* xxij s. viij d.		Total £50. Deductions £1 2*s.* 8*d.*

The Shire or forrience of the same Citie.

		Rem*anentes* clare.	
Stichall.	vj d.	xxiij s. x d.	6*d.*
Sow & Caloughdon.	iij d.	xv s. ix d.	3*d.*

[1] leaf 389. [2] 32 Hen. VIII, c. 50. [3] = deductions.
[4] = remaining clear. [5] deleted.
[6–6] "Litle-p*ar*ke-str*et*" deleted.

7*d.*	Pynley, Biggyng, Stoke & Whitley.	vij d.	xxxj s. ij d.
5*d.*	Wykyn.	v d.	xxvj s. vij d.
5*d.*	Coundon & Radforde.	v d.	xxvj s. vij d.
	Shulton.	[1]	xvj d.
1*s.*	Ansty.	xij d.	xlix s. vj d.
10*d.*	ffolleshull	x d.	xlij s. x d.
1*d.*	Weston	j d.	xxiij d.
6*d.*	Exall	vj d.	xxxiij s. x d.
5*d.*	Keresley	v d.	xxvj s. ix d.

Total £14 0*s.* 1*d.* Deductions 5*s.*

Summa totalis xiiij li. j d. *Summa deduccionum* v s.

[And since deductions are not allowed, then let them be charged as follows.]

Et cum deduccio*nes* non allocen*tur* tunc one*rentur* vt sequi*tur*.

[Stichall, 24s. 4d.; Sowe, Caloughdon, 16s.; Pynley, Biggyng, Stoke and Whitley, 31s. 9d.; Wykyn, 27s.; Coundon and Radford, 27s.; Shulton, 16d.; Ansty, 50s. 6d.; ffolleshull, 43s. 8d.; Weston, 2s.; Exall, 34s. 4d.; Keresley, 27s. 2d.]

[Sum total of the fifteenth within the foreigns £14 5*s.* 1*d.*, whence in deductions 5*s.*

Summa totalis xv^e^ infra forins*ecos* xiiij li. v s. j d., vnde in deduccio*nibus* v s.

[Sum total of the fifteenth and tenth of the whole city and county £64 5*s.* 1*d.*, whence in deductions 27*s.* 8*d.*]

Summa totalis xv^e^ & x^e^ tocius Ciu*itatis* & Com*itatus* lxiiij li. v s. j d., vnde in deduccio*nibus* xxvij s. viij d.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

"Ciuitas Couentre." Jury of 25.

[2][V. f. p. held on Oct. 12, 32 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister*[3] Hugo Lawton, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Wales, Rog. Palmer, Will. Coton, Sim. Perker, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Cuth. Joyno*ur*, Ric. Sewall, Chris. Waren, Hugo Bloure, [4]Will. Norton, Tho. Owres, Joh. Lawton, Jac. ffarmo*ur*, Tho. Sconse, Ric. Warner, Will. Stirropp, Rob. Smith, sen., skynn*er*.]

Sheriffs.

[Jac. Rogers, Mercer, Will. Saunders, capper.]

[1] blank. Cf. p. 407. [2] Scribe J. leaf 380.
[3] Repeated as far as note 4. [4] Untitled.

Item, it ys ordyned (etc.) that if eny bocher dwellyng & kepyng a shoppe owte of the bocherie do at any tyme herafter Carre ther fleshe or vyttell owte of ther howses in baskett*es* or bagges to be solde by them or ther s*er*uauntes, that then it shal-be lefull for the Sheriff*es* of this Cetie & ther Officers and the Maisters of the Crafte of Bochers of the seid Cetie, and to eu*er*y of them, to sease and take from the seid Bocher or his s*er*uaunte the seid fleshe & vittell to the vse & behove of the seid Sheriff*es* and ther Prisoners. [1] "Butchers not to carry their meat to sell."

[Enacted] that the felyships and craft*es* of the Pinners, Tylers and Cowpers shal-be by auctoritie of this lete one felyshyp and Crafte vnyt together as they have ben in tymes past etc. "Tilers, pinners & Coupers."

[2][Enacted] *that*[3] none inhabitante of thys Cetie shall sell eny Talowe above the price of ij s. vj d. the stone, vpon payne of eu*er*y p*er*sone doyng the contrarie for eu*er*y defawlte to forfett vj s. viij d. to thuse of the Sheriff*es* of thys Cetie for the tyme beyng. "Talowe."

[Enacted] þ*at* none inh*ab*itant*es* of this Cetie shall sell Candels above j d. ob. the pounde, [or 6*s*. 8*d*. to the sheriffs at every default.] "Candels."

THE RULES OF THE SMITHS.

Item, it is ordeyned that xij of the Eldest & discretest of the feliship of Smythes in this Cetie eu*er* on sancte Loys daye[5] shall chuse iij kepers for the yere, that is to wytt the hede-kep*er* and his two brethern.[6] And in case they refuse to take ther office vpon them or eny of them the hede-kep*er* to forfytt to the seid Crafte xx s. in the name of a payn: And if eny of his brether refuse ther office to forfett x s., And so to goo quyte for that yere, And the seid xij[th] [7]to chose[7] other in ther stedes. [4] "Ordynaunces for the felishipp of Smythes."[4]

"Refusing to serue master or warden to forffeit [illeg.]."

Item, it is ordeyned that what p*er*son or p*er*sons of the

[1] Gloss in later hand with one exception throughout this leet's entries.
[2] leaf 380, back. [3] "þ" is written like "y" by this scribe.
[4–4] Contemporary hand.
[5] Dec. 1. S. Eloy or Eligius was the patron of smiths.
[6] A later hand. [7–7] Repeated.

sayde Craftes that will not com to the kepers for the yere beyng when they be send for for eny busynes commaunded by maister Meyre, or wyl-not be present at all Mariages, burialles or eny other lawfull assembles for the welthe of the seid Crafte, And to the worshup of the Cetie, to forfett vj d. in the name of a payn withoute a lawfull excuse.

"To be present at mariages or buriells."

Item, what person or persons of the seid Crafte that rebell in the kepers presence, or speke eny opprobrius wordes wherby that Charitie myght be broken, nor wyl-not kepe silence at the kepers commaundement, to forfett iij s. iiij d.

"None to give euill Language to the master."

Item, what person or persons of the seid Crafte that wylnot go to the watches on Mydsomer nyght & seynte Petur nyght or brekethe the watche without a lawfull cause to forfytt for Midsomer nyght iij s. iiij d. in the name of a payn, And for seynte Petur nyght xx d., withowte eny grace.[1]

The "watch on Midsomer nyght"

and S. Peter's night.

[2] Item, it is ordeyned that no brother of the seid Crafte shall sew one another in the lawe to the tyme be he haue asked license of the kepers for the tyme beyng to thentent that the kepers may agree them if they can, vpon payn of vj s. viij d. Provided alwayes that the kepers make an ende within the space of xiiij dayes of eny suche cause, or els to giffe licence.

"None to sue Another without Licence."

Item, it is ordeyned ther shall no kepers for the yere beyng put in nor owte Preste, Clarke nor Somner without assent & consent of xij of the eldest & dyscretest of the seid Crafte, vpon payn of xl s. to be paid in the name of a payn, the one half to Maister Meyr for the tyme beyng, & the other halfe to the seid Craftes.

"Clarke & somner."

Item, what person or persons of the seid Crafte that rebuketh the keper or eyther of his brother to forfett iij s. iiij d. Provided alwayes that if the kepers for the yere beyng do offende in ther office that then they to be punished by xij of the seyd Occupacion accordyng to consciens.

The "masters to be

punished by xij of the fellowship."

Item, it is ordeyned that ther shall no Smyth within

[1] See above, pp. 35, 710.
[2] leaf 381.

this Cetie shoo no horse *with* forest[1] shoyes nor forest[1] nailles in deceyvyng the kynges subiectes, vpon payn of iij s. iiij d. to be to the said Crafte in the name of a payn.

Against [2]"Shoeing with fforrest[1] Iron."[2]

Item, it is ordeyned that ther shall no man of the said Crafte procure awaye his brother seruaunte nor set hym on worke to he knowe that the said seruaunte be lawfullie departed from his maister he wrought *with*all, vpon payn of iij s. iiij d.

Against "inticing other men's seruants."

Item, it was enacted at Michaelmas lete in the xvij yere of kyng Henrie the viij[th] that wher-as in the tyme of *Maister* Nicholas Burwey, late Maire of this Cetie,[3] emonges other thinges that euery craftes-man that setteth vp his Crafte *with*in this Cetie, & hathe not ben prentes *with*in the same, shuld paye to the saide Crafte of Smythes x s., that ys to saye, at thende of the fyrst yeir v s., And at thende of the second yere other v s. :

"x s. ffor making ffree."

Item, it is nowe enacted (etc.) that the same fyne of x s. shal-be xiij s. iiij d. to be payed to the Maisters of the same Crafte of Smythes the fyrst daye of his setting vp vj s. viij d., and at the ende of the fyrst yere other vj s. viij d., vpon payn of forfiture to the said Crafte the doble value of the same fyne.

"$\overset{s}{xiij}\ \overset{d}{4}$ to be paid to the maisters at setting vp."

[4][Ordained] [5]that if any smythe offend in the said occupacion the offender to be punished by the xij men of the seid Crafte, and if eny suche person or persons be obstacle[6] and will-not be orderyd by the seid xij that then it shal-be lefull to the seid Maisters for the tyme

"Smythes."

"All offences to be punished by 12 off the Company."

[1] This term seems to refer to iron from the Forest of Dean (see Fell, *Early Iron Industry of Furness*, pp. 232–3), and not as Rogers supposed to Sussex iron (see *Agric. and Prices*, v. 479). Yarrenton (*England's Improvement by Sea and Land*) speaks (1677) enthusiastically of "our forest iron," in which term he may include possibly that of Clay Hill in Shropshire, *ib.* p. 127. He also notes the fact that the Coldshore iron from Worcestershire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire and Derbyshire, which differed from Dean iron, was better fitted for the manufacture of nails and small commodities, *ib.* p. 58, 147.

[2—2] In a later hand.

[3] See p. 655. It was at the Easter leet of Burwey's mayoralty in 1518 (9 Hen. VIII) that this order was made. At the Easter leet of 1525 (17 Hen. VIII), in Heynes' mayoralty, the order was modified, *v.* p. 691.

[4] leaf 381, back.

[5] "at the seid lete it" follows; the "it" is redundant.

[6] = obstinate.

beyng to shewe ther names to *Maister* Meyre & the Justice of peax, and they to send for the seid offenders & cause them forwith to paye doble penaltie, or els to comytt them to warde vnto suche tyme they wyll be orderyd by *Maister* Meyre & his brethern.

CUTHBERT JOYNOUR, MAYOR, 1541.

"Ciuitas Couentre."

[1]¶ [Election of officers.]

Jury of 26.

[*Magister*[2] Sim. *Par*ker, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Wales, Hugo Lawton, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Joh. Saunders, Tho. Spens*er*, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Ric. Ley, Joh. Talont*es*, Ric. Sewall, Hen. Over, Chris. Waren, Joh. Herforde, Hugo Blour, Tho. Smyth, Will. Colman, [3]Tho. Kyrvyn, Hen. Godson.]

Officers.

[m. *Magister* Cuth. Joyn*our*, drap*er*; rec. Rog. Wigston, armig*er*; cor. Rob. Grene; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Rog. Adnet, grasier; Chris. Bromley, gyrdeler; w. Tho. Mores, drap*er*; Will. Beyley, jun., drap*er*; mace, Hen. Thyrkell; crier, Joh. Woode.]

LIBERTIES AND FRANCHISES.

[4] Tituli libertat*um* & ffranches*i*arum Ciuitat*is* Couentr*ie*.[5]

[In parliament of Edward III held at Westminster on the Monday after S. Mathias' day (Mar. 2), in the 11th year (1337) it among other things is contained:

[Also it is accorded in full parliament by assent of all as well bishops, earls, barons and other nobles as commoners, that for the honour of our

In *par*liamento d*omi*ni Edwardi tercii tent*o* apud Westm*onasterium* die Lune p*roxim*o post festu*m sancti* Mathei ap*ostoli* anno regni sui vndecimo inter alia sic co*n*tinet*ur*:

¶ Auxint est accorde in plene p*ar*liment p*ar* assent de toutz auxibien prelatz, Counties, Barons & auters (*sic*) g*r*antz come gentz de co*mune*

[1] leaf 382. [2] Repeated until note 3.
[3] Untitled. [4] leaf 382, back. Scribe of I type.
[5] Titles of the liberties and franchises of the city of Coventry. See *Rot. Parl.* vi, 12a (Mr. E. F. Kirk). The Anglo-French document is copied in the Burton MS., leaf 56. I do not know why this entry occurs here.

lord the king, and the country and for enforcing of the same and for that [there] was anciently a Duke of Cornwall, that our lord the king ought to make Sir Edward his son, Earl of Chester, Duke of Cornwall, and that the eldest sons of the Kings of England, that is to say, those who are next heirs to the kingdom, should be Dukes of Cornwall; and that the said county should be given to Sir Edward as a duchy, and that that county should always remain as a duchy to the eldest sons of the Kings of England, who are nearest heirs to the kingdom, without being given elsewhere.

q*ue* p*our* le hone*ur* [de] n*ost*re seigne*ur* le Roy & de la terre, & a forcement dicele & p*our* ceo q*ue* aunceonement eistoit vn Duke de Cornewall, q*ue* le dit n*ost*re seigne*ur* le Roy deuoit faire mons*ieur* Edward son fitz, Counte de Cestre, Duke de Cornewall, & [1]q*ue* les fitz eignes des Roies dengleterre cestasau*oir* ceux q*ui* se*rront* [2] heires p*ro*schenes due (*sic*) roialme[3] feussent duk*es* de Cornewall. [4]Et q*ue* la dite Counte soit done au sire Edwarde come en nom de duschee,[4] & q*ue* cele Counte de Cornewall toutz-iours demoerye,[5] come duschee a lez eignes fitz [des] Roies dengletere q*ui* seront heires p*ro*scheins du Roialme sunce[6] estre aillours done.

In the great roll, 7 Ed. IV, 1467.

In magno rot*ulo* [7] de anno vij^o^ Regis Edwardi quarti.

[R. Onley and W. Baxster, sheriffs of this county from Michaelmas in the 6th year of Edward IV (1466), until the following Michaelmas, by virtue of the letters patent of Henry VI, formerly in fact and not of right, King of England, dated November 26, the 30th year of his reign (1451),[8] and enrolled in the Memor-

¶ Rob. Onley & Will. Baxster, vic*e-comites* huius Com*itatus*, A festo S. Mich*ael*is Anno sexto Regis Edwardi quarti vsq*ue* festu*m* S. Mich*ael*is tunc p*roxim*o sequ*ens*, p*re*textu l*iter*ar*um* patenc*ium* Henrici sexti, nup*er* de ffac*to* & non de Jure, Regis Anglie, quar*um* dat*a* est vicesim*o* sexto die Nouembr*is* Anno regni sui xxx^o^,[8] Et Irrotul*atarum* in me-

[1] This passage to the end of the Anglo-French document is to be found in Rot. Parl. IV, 140, abbreviated as R. P. Slight variations not noted.
[2] R. P. serroient. [3] R. P. inserts d'Engleterre. [4–4] Not in R. P.
[5] R. P. demoreroit, Burton MS. demverye. [6] R. P. sanz.
[7] *i. e.* the Pipe Roll, no. 312, 7 Ed. IV. sub tit. Ciuitas Couentr*ie*, abbreviated as Pipe R. (Mr. E. F. Kirk). See also Burton MS., leaf 50–1.
[8] Charter Roll 27–39 Hen. VI (30th year), mem. 24, no. 29 (Mr. E. F. Kirk).

anda of the 24th year (really 33rd), viz. among the records of Hilary term on roll 32;[2] and as well by a certain act enacted and provided in the parliament of the said former king held in the 33rd year (1454–5) for the cities, boroughs and towns of the kingdom of England, and enrolled in the memoranda on the side of the king's remembrancer of the 34th[3] year (1455–6) of the said former king, viz. among the records of Trinity Term, roll 14, as by two several, similar acts had and provided in the parliament held at Westminster in the 1st and 3rd year of the present king, for the different cities, boroughs and towns of this kingdom of England, remaining in the custody of the king's remembrancer, and by the present lord king's writ enrolled among the Memoranda of the 7th year, Michaelmas term, roll 7 :—

[In which is contained among other things that the said former king, as aforesaid, by his letters patent, which the said present king has confirmed, granted to the mayor, bailiffs, and community of the city of Coventry, their heirs (etc.) that the city or town of Coventry

mora*n*d*is* de Anno xxiiij°,[1] videl*icet* inter Rec*orda* de *termino* S. Hillar*ii* Rot*u*lo xxxij°;[2] Ac tam p*er* quemdam Act*um* in *par*liamento *dicti* nup*er* Regis apud West*mo*n*asterium* Anno regni sui xxxiij° tento *pro* Ciuitat*ibus*, burg*is* & villis regni Angl*ie* edit*um* & provisu*m* & irrotulat*um* in memorand*is* ex p*ar*te Reme*mora*t*oris* Regis de Anno xxiiij° [*interlined* xxxiiij][3] *dicti* nup*er* Regis, videl*icet* inter Record*a* de *termino* S. Trinitat*is* Rotulo xiiij°, quam p*er* duos sep*er*ales cons*imi*les actus in p*ar*liamento[4] *domini* Reg*is* nunc apud West*mo*n*asterium* Anno (*sic*) regni sui p*ri*mo & tercio tento *pro* Ciuitatib*us*, burgis & villis huius regni Angl*ie* sep*ar*at*im*, h*abi*tos & p*ro*uisos & in custodia reme*mo*rat*oris* Regis remanent*es*, ac p*er* brev*em* *dicti* *domini* Reg*is* nunc Irr*o*tulat*um* in memorand*is* de Anno sept*imo* Termi*no* S. Mich*ael*is Rot*u*lo vij° :—

In quo inter alia cont*inetur* q*uo*d *dictus*, vt p*re*mittit*ur*, nup*er* Rex p*er* predict*as* lit*er*as patentes, quas *dictus* *dominus* Rex nunc confirmauit, concesserit tunc Maiori, ball*iuis* & Comm*uni*tati Ciuitat*is* Couentr*ie* & eor*um* hered*ibus* & Successorib*us* q*uo*d Ciuitas siue villa de Couentr*ia*

[1] Read xxxiij.
[2] Memo. Roll, K. R. Hilary, 33 Hen. VI. Communia, roll 32 (Mr. E. F. Kirk).
[3] Pipe R. xxxiiij. [4] Pipe R. *par*liamentis.

with Radford, Keresley, Foleshill, Exhall, Ansty, Shilton, Calloughdon, Wyken, Henley le Woodend, Stoke, Bigging, Whitley, Pinley, Asthull, Horwell, Harnal, and Whoberley, hamlets of the city (etc.) aforesaid . . . of the hamlets (etc.) and parcels aforesaid, which were within the county and of the county of Warwick, should be from the feast of S. Nicholas in the 30th year of the said former king's reign (Dec. 6, 1451) an entire county incorporated in itself, in name and deed, and distinct and separate from the said county of Warwick for ever, and not part of the said county of Warwick: and that the same county, so incorporate, distinct and separate from the county of Warwick should be named and called by name the county of the city of Coventry for ever.

[He willed also and granted for himself, his heirs (etc.) to the aforesaid mayor (etc.) for ever that the bailiffs of that city (etc.) who should be bailiffs on the morrow of the said feast of St. Nicholas, and the bailiffs of the same city

predicta cum Radforde, Keresley, Folkeshull, Ecleshall, Anesty, Shulton, Calwedon, Wykyn, Henley la Woodende, Stoke, Byggyng, Whitley, Pynley, Asthull, Horewell, Harnehall, Whaburley, hamlettos[1] Ciuitat*is* siue ville *predicte*[2] . . . hamlettor*um* & p*ar*cellar*um* *predictorum*, qui infra Com*itatum* &

de Com*itatu* Warr*wicensi* existe*r*int (*sic*), a festo S. Nicho*l*ai Anno

Regni *dicti* nup*er* Regis xxx°, essent vnus integer Com*itatus* p*er* se corp*oratus* in re & nom*ine*, ac distinct*us* & sep*aratus* a *dicto* Com*itatu* Warr*wicensi* imp*erpetuum*, &

non p*ar*cella ipsius Com*itatus* Warr*wicensis*: Et q*uo*d idem Com*itatus* sic[3] corp*oratus* a *dicto* Com*itatu*

Warr*wicense* distinct*us* & sep*aratus* Com*itatus* Ciuitat*is* Coue*n*tr*ie* pro [4]p*er*petuo nom*in*aretur, nuncuparetur, & appellaretur:

Vo[l]uerit etiam & concesserit pro se, hered*ibus* & Success*oribus* suis p*re*fat*is* Maiori, Ball*iu*is & Com*mun*itati & Successorib*us* suis imp*erpetuum* q*uo*d ball*iui* Ciuitat*is* (etc.) illius,

qui in Crastino *dicti* festi S. Nicho*l*ai essent, & ball*iui* eiusdem Ciuitat*is*

[1] Pipe R. hamlett*is*.

[2] An omission here. See p. 753–4. Supply "ac illa p*ar*cella de Sowe & illa p*ar*cella de Styuchall que sunt infra libertatem Ciuitat*is*, siue ville, illius & procinct*us* Ciuitatis, ville," . . . and that part of Sow and that part of Stivichall which are within the liberty of that city or town, and the precinct of that city, town, . . .

[3] MS. sit. [4] leaf 383.

(etc.) who for the time should be, to be elected from thenceforth in the manner and form used in the time of Edward III, during the time that they be bailiffs of the city should be sheriffs of the county of the city of Coventry from the aforesaid feast for ever:

[And that as well they who should be sheriffs of the aforesaid city from the said morrow of the feast of S. Nicholas as all others who should be sheriffs of the same city from thenceforth in all future times, should, after that they were sheriffs of the same city, duly take the oath before the mayor of the city (etc.) for the time being in the Gildhall, and not before any other or elsewhere, duly and faithfully to fulfil, exercise and perform the office of sheriff of the said county of the aforesaid city so long as they should be in the office of sheriff:

[And that the mayor of the said city (etc.) for the time being should certify into the chancery of the king and his heirs from time to time without delay the names of such sheriffs (etc.) thus sworn under his letters patent to be sealed with the seal of his office of mayoralty; and that such

(etc.) modo & forma tempore Regis E. tercii vsitatis extunc eligendi qui pro tempore essent, quemdiu (*sic*) ballium Ciuitatis (etc.) illius extitissent, essent a predicto festo vicecomites dicti Comitatus Ciuitatis Couentrie imperpetuum:

Et quod tam ipsi qui vicecomites Ciuitatis predicte a[1] dicto Crastino S. Nicholai existerint (*sic*), quam omnes alii qui vicecomites eiusdem Ciuitatis extunc perpetuis futuris temporibus essent, postquam vicecomites eiusdem Ciuitatis fuissent, Sacramentum suum coram Maiore Ciuitatis siue ville predicte pro tempore existente, & non coram aliquo alio, in Guylhalda[2] eiusdem Ciuitatis, & non alibi, in forma debita prestarent ad officium vicecomitatus dicti Comitatus Ciuitatis predicte debite & fideliter faciendum, exercendum & exequendum quamdiu ipsi in officio vicecomi[ta]tus extitissent:

Et quod Maior dicte Ciuitatis (etc.) pro tempore existente[3] Nomina huiusmodi vicecomitum dicti Comitatus Ciuitatis predicte sic juratorum per literas suas patentes sigillo officii Maioratus illius sigillandas in Cancellariam Regis & heredum suorum de tempore in tempus indi-

[1] Pipe R. in. [2] Pipe R. Guyhalda. [3] Pipe R. existens.

sheriffs of the city aforesaid who for the time should be should hold the king's county courts of the city from month to month on the Tuesday throughout the year for ever :

[And that they should have and use all kind of and such power, jurisdiction, authority and liberty and other things whatsoever belonging to the office of sheriffs in the same city (etc.) as any other his sheriffs or his heirs had and ought to have in their baillywicks within the kingdom of England, as is more fully contained in the said writ, rendering an account of farms and other dues, as below.

[The mayor and bailiffs and men of the town of Coventry, tenants of the manor of Cheylesmore, owe £50 a year for having the farm of the town from June 21, the first year of King Richard II (1378) to him and his successors for ever; paying thereof to the king the said £50 at the feasts of Easter and Michaelmas equally, as is contained in the first roll of this king, and in the 32nd roll of Hen. VI in Warwick and Leicester.

[The Prior and Convent of Coventry owe £88 6*s.* 8*d.* of late *cer*tific[er]et; *quod*que huiusmodi vice*comites* Ciuitat*is* *predicte* qui *pro* tempo*re* essent Com*itatus* Regis Ciuitat*is* *predicte* infra Ciuitatem illam de mense in mensem *per* diem M*a*rtis Annuati*m* tenerent imperpetu*um* :

Et quod h*a*berent & exercerent om*ni*mod*as* tales potestatem, jurisdici*on*em, auctoritatem & liber*ta*tem ac quecu*n*q*ue* alia ad officia vice*comitatum* *per*tinenc*ia* in eisdem Ciuitate siue villa, hamlett*is*, *par*cell*is* & *pro*cinctu eor*un*dem quales & qualia aliqui alii vice*comites* sui

& hered*um*[1] infra Regnu*m* Anglie in balliuis suis h*a*berent & h*a*bere deberent, *pro*ut in eod*em* bre*vi* plenius continet*ur*, reddendo Compo*tum* de firmis & aliis debit*is*, vt infra :—

Maior & balli*ui* ac ho*min*es ville de Couentr*ia*, tenentes Mane*rii* de Chelesmore, debent l li. *per annum* de firma ville *predicte* h*a*benda a xxj°

die Junii anno *pri*mo Regis Ric*ardi* *secun*di sibi & success*oribus* suis imp*er*pe*tuum*. Reddendo inde Regi

per annu*m* dict*as* l li. ad festa Pasche & S. Mich*ael*is equaliter, sicut continet*ur* in rotulo *pri*mo hui*us* Regis

& in Rotulo xxxij° H. vj[i] in Warr*wico* & Leice*stria*.[2]

¶ Prior & Conventus de Couentr*ia* debent $\overset{xx}{\text{iiij}}$ viij li. vj s. viij d. de

[1] Pipe R. adds "suorum."

[2] The Burton MS. copy and Pipe R. add "et in Rotulo ij° Regis *Ricardi* ij[di] et DCCC li. de ann*is* *preteritis*, *summa* DCCC li."

the rent of half the town of Coventry in the county of Warwick called Earl's-Part, which half indeed the same prior and convent hold a part in demesne and a part in service of the king as of his manor of Cheylesmore, being in the king's hand by service etc.

[Will. Loff of Coventry owes 12*d.* a year to the Exchequer of Michaelmas for retaining a certain house in Much-park Street; to have from December 10th in the end of the 15th year of King Edward [III], to the said William and his heirs, as it is contained in the 34th[4] roll in Warwick and Leicester and in the 16th roll of the said king Edward of which the sheriffs answer within.

[Rob. Haddeley owes 3*s.* 8*d.* a year for the custody of a messuage with appurtenances in the town of Coventry which formerly was of the Jews[5] redditu medietatis ville de Couentria in Comitatu Warrwicensi vocate Erlespark[1]; quam quidem medietatem ijdem prior & Conventus tenent parcellam in dominico & parcellam in seruicio de Rege vt de dominico suo de Chelesmore in manu Regis existente per seruicium etc.[2]

¶ Will. Loff de Couentria debet xij d. per annum ad Scaccarium S. Michaelis pro quadam domo retinente[3] in Miche-parke-streit; habenda a decimo die Decembris Anno xv° Regis E. finiente eidem Willelmo & heredibus suis imperpetuum, sicut continetur in Rotulo xxxiiij°[4] in Warrwico & Leicestria & in Rotulo xvj° dicti Regis E. de quibus vicecomites respondent infra.

¶ Rob. Haddeley debet iij s. viij d. per annum in custodia vnius Mesuagii cum pertinenciis in villa de Couentria, quod quondam fuit Judeorum[5] ibidem, & quod Tho.

[1] Pipe R. Erlespart, *i. e.* the half of the town belonging anciently to the Earls of Chester. See Dugdale (1730), 1. 162, *Life in an Old English Town*, 60.

[2] The Pipe R. and MS. Burton add: "iiij viij li. vj s. viij d. per annum pro omnibus seruiciis a septimo die Augusti Anno x° Regis Ricardi secundi, quamdiu medietas dicte ville de Coventria et Dominicum de Cheylesmore in manibus Regis vel heredum suorum contigerit remanere; Solvendo dictum redditum ad terminos S. Michaelis et Pasche equaliter sicut Continetur in Rotulo Secundo, Et in Rotulis primo et sexto Henrici quarti, Et in Rotulo x° Regis Ricardi Secundi; Et Dxxx li. de annis preteritis. Summa DCxviij li. vj s. viij d. [£88 6*s.* 8*d.* for all services from Aug. 7 in the 10th year of King Richard while the half of the said town of Coventry and the demesne of Cheylesmore happen to remain in the hands of the king or of his heirs; paying the said rent at the terms of Michaelmas and Easter equally, as it is contained in the 2nd roll, and in the 1st and 6th rolls of Henry IV, and in the 10th roll of King Richard II; and £530 for the past years. Total £618 6*s.* 8*d.*] These lump sums evidently apply to the Prior's arrears of the term. See *Life in an Old English Town*, 127.

[3] Pipe R. retinenda. [4] *i. e.* the Pipe Roll 34 Edw. III (Mr. E. F. Kirk).

[5] On the Jewess, Antera of Coventry, see Cole, *Doc. Illust. Eng. Hist.*, 309–19.

there, and which Tho. Wildegrice lately held, which is extended at 18*d*. a year.

[To have from Michaelmas in the 1st year of this king until the end of 20 years; rendering unto the king 3*s*. 8*d*. a year at Easter and Michaelmas by equal portions by the hands of Joh. Haddeley of Coventry, grazier, and W. Stephens of London, baker, as is contained in the 2nd roll of this king and in the Originalia roll of the first year in the 64th roll, of which the sheriffs answer within.]

Wildegrice de Couentr*ia* nup*er* tenuit, q*uo*d ad decem & octo den*a*r*ios* extendant*ur* (*sic*) *per* ann*um*. Hab*end*um a festo S. Mich*ael*is arch*angel*i Anno p*ri*mo Regis hui*us* vsq*ue* ad finem xx^ti^ Annor*um*. Reddendo inde Regi p*er* ann*um* iij s. viij d. ad festa Pasche & S. Mich*ael*is *per*

equales porci*one*s p*er* manus Joh. Haddeley de Couentr*ia*, Grasier, & Will. Stephens de London, Baker, sicut continet*ur* in rot*u*lo secundo

R*egis* hui*us* & in origine[1] de Anno p*ri*mo Rot*u*lo lxiiij°; de quib*us* vice-*comites respondent* infra.

[2] In memoran*dis* Sc*a*ccarii de Anno vij° E. quarti, vide-l*icet* inter brev*ia* direct*a* Baronib*us* de Termi*no* S. Mich*ael*is Rot*u*lo septim*o* ex p*ar*te Remem*oratoris* Regis inter alia continet*ur* sic :—[3]

[The king to his treasurer and barons of the Exchequer, greeting. Whereas Henry VI, formerly in fact though not of right, King of England, granted by his letters patent,[4] which we have confirmed, to the mayor, bailiffs and community of the city of Coventry and their heirs and successors that the city (etc.) of Coventry aforesaid with Radford, Keresley, Foleshill, Exhall, Anstey, Shilton, Calloughdon, Wyken,

Rex Thes*aurario* & Baronib*us* suis de Sc*a*cc*ario*, Sal*utem*. Cum H. sextus nup*er* de *facto* & non de Jure R*ex*

Angl*ie* p*er* l*it*eras suas patentes quas confirmauimus concesserit Maiori,

ball*iu*is & Comm*uni*tati Ciuitat*is* Couentr*ie*, & eor*um* hered*ibus* & success*oribus* q*uo*d Ciuitas (etc.) de

Couentr*ia* p*redict*a cum Radeforde, Keresley, ffolkeshull, Eccleshale, Anesty, Shulton, Calwedon, Wyken,

[1] *sic*. Pipe R. Origin*alia*. [2] leaf 383, back.

[3] In the Exchequer Memoranda of Ed. IV, among the writs directed to the Barons on Michaelmas term, roll 7, on the side of the king's remembrancer it is thus contained among other things, *i.e.* Memoranda Roll, K. R. Mich., 7 Edw. IV, Writs to the Barons, no. 7, abbreviated below as Mem. R. (Mr. E. F. Kirk).

[4] See p. 747, note 8 (Mr. E. F. Kirk).

Henley le Woodend, Stoke, Biggyng, Whitley, Pinley, Asthull, Horwell, Harnal, and Whoburley, hamlets of the city (etc.) aforesaid, and that part of Sow, and that part of Stivichall, which are within the liberty of the city (etc.) and the precinct of that city, town, hamlets, and parts aforesaid, which were within the county and of the county of Warwick, from the feast of S. Nicholas in the 30th year of his reign should be an entire county incorporated (etc.), and distinct and separate from the said county of Warwick, and not part (etc.).

[And that the same county thus incorporated, distinct and separate from the said county of Warwick, should be for ever named, called, and called by name the county of the city of Coventry.

[He willed also that the mayor and bailiffs of the city (etc.) hereafter to be elected, should be elected at the same place, times, manner and form, as in the time of his progenitor, Edward, of famous memory, formerly King of England, the third after the Conquest, by virtue of his letters patent, or in the time of any other his progenitor,

Henley la Woodende, Stoke, Biggyng, Whiteley, Pynley, Asthull, Horewell, Harnehall, & Whaburley,

hamlettes[1] Ciuitat*is* siue ville p*re*dict*e*, ac illa p*ar*cella de Sowe & illa p*ar*cell*a* de Styuchall que sun*t* infra libertatem Ciuitat*is* (etc.) illius & p*ro*cinct*us* Ciuitat*is*, ville, hamlettor*um* & p*ar*cellar*um* p*re*dict*o*r*um*, qui infra Com*itatum* & de Com*itatu*

Warr*wicensi* exister*in*t (*sic*) a festo S. Nich*ol*ai a. r. sui. xxx° essent vnus integer Com*itatus* p*er* se corp*o*rat*us* in re & nom*in*e, ac distinct*us* & sep*a*rat*us* a d*ic*to Com*itatu* Warr*wicensi* imp*er*pet*uum*, & non p*ar*cella ipsius Com*itatus* Warr*wicensis*:

Et q*uo*d idem Com*itatus*, sic cor-

p*o*rat*us*, a d*ic*to Com*itatu* Warr*wicensi* distinct*us* & sep*a*rat*us*, Com*itatus* Ciuitat*is* Couentr*ie* *pro* p*er*petuo nom*in*aretur, nuncup*a*retur & appellaretur:

Volu*er*it eciam q*uo*d maiores & ball*iui* Ciuitat*is* (etc.) illius ibid*em* imposter*um* eligend*i* eligerentur im-

p*er*pet*uum* eisdem loco, temp*o*rib*us*, modo & forma, p*r*out tempo*re* inclite

recordac*ion*is E. nup*er* Regis Anglie t*er*cii[2] post Conq*uest*um, p*ro*genitoris sui, p*re*textu l*itera*r*um* suar*um* paten-

[1] Mem. R. hamlettis.
[2] Pat. Roll, 19 Edw. III, p. 3, m. 6 (3 Dec. 1345). (Mr. E. F. Kirk.)

King of England, by virtue of his letters patent, or in any other manner or by any other means as they were wont to be elected or made, or any of them was wont to be elected or made.

[He willed also and granted for himself, his heirs (etc.) to the mayor, bailiffs and community for ever that the bailiffs of the city (etc.) who should be bailiffs on the morrow of the said [feast of] S. Nicholas, and the bailiffs of the city (etc.), to be chosen from thenceforth in manner and form aforesaid, who for the time should be, during the time that they were bailiffs of the city (etc.) should be from the aforesaid feast sheriffs of the said county of the city for ever.

[And also that they should be for ever bailiffs of the city (etc.) and do and perform there the offices of bailiffs, according to the form and effect of the franchises and liberties in the same city (etc.) theretofore used and accustomed by virtue of the grants of divers his progenitors and (?) ancestors notwithstanding his own grant.

[And that as well they who should be sheriffs of the said city on the said morrow of S. Nicholas, as all those who

cium, vel tempo*re* alicuius alte*rius* pro*genitoris* sui Regis Anglie *pre*textu *lite*rarum suarum patenc*ium*, vel aliquo alio modo elegi (*sic*) seu fieri consueve*runt*, seu eo*rum* aliquis elegi seu fieri consueuit :

Volue*rit* ecia*m* & concesse*rit* pro se, hered*ibus* & successo*ribus* suis, *prefatis* Maiori, ball*iuis* & Co*mmuni*tati & Successo*ribus* suis imp*erpetuum* quod ball*iui* Ciuitat*is* (etc.) illius, qui

in Crastino *dicti* [festi] S. Nich*ola*i essent, & ball*iui* eiusdem Ciuitat*is* (etc.) modo & forma *predicta* extunc

eligend*i*, qui *pro* tempo*re* essent, quamdiu ball*iui* Ciuitat*is* (etc.) illius extitissent, essent a *predicto* festo vicicomites (*sic*) *dicti* Com*itatus* Ciuitat*is* Couentr*ie* imp*erpetuum* :

Et ecia*m* quod essent imp*erpetuum* ball*iui* Ciuitat*is* (etc.) illius & officia ballio*rum* ibidem fac*erent* & exer-

*ce*rent *secundum* forma*m* & effect*um* franches*iarum* & liber*tatum* in eadem Ciuitate (etc.) *pre*textu concession*um* diu*ersorum* pro*genitorum* & successo*rum*[1] suo*rum* consuet*arum* [et] ibidem ante hec tempo*ra* vsitat*arum*, concessione sua non-obstante :

Et quod tam ipsi qui vicicomites Ciuitat*is* *predicte* in *dicto* Crastino

S. Nich*ola*i exister*ent*, quam omnes

[1] Read "antecessor*um*."

should be thenceforth sheriffs of the same city in all future times, after that they were sheriffs of the said city, should take their oath in due form before the mayor of the city for the time being, and not before another, in the Gildhall, and not elsewhere, duly and faithfully to do, exercise and perform the office of sheriff of the said county of the city aforesaid as long as they should be in the office of sheriff:

[And that the mayor of the said city (etc.) for the time being should immediately certify from time to time into our chancery, or that of our heirs, by his letters patent sealed with the seal of the office of mayoralty of the city, the names of the same sheriffs thus sworn:

[And that the same sheriffs of the said city, who for the time shall be, should yearly hold our county courts of the said city within that city from month to month on the Tuesday throughout the year for ever:

[And that they should have and exercise all such power, jurisdiction, authority and liberty and all other things whatsoever belonging to the office of sheriff within the alii qui vicicomites eiusdem Ciuitat*is* extunc p*er*petuis futur*is* tempori-b*us* essent, postquam vicicomites eiusdem Ciuitat*is* fuissent, Sacra-

*ment*um suum cora*m* Maiore Ciuitat*is* (etc.) p*redicte* p*ro* tempo*re* exist*ente* & non cora*m* aliquo alio, in Guyhalda eiusd*em* Ciuitat*is* & non alibi, in forma debita p*re*starent ad officiu*m* vicicomitatu*s* (*sic*) dicti Co*mitatus* Ciuitat*is* p*redicte* debite & fideliter faciend*um*, exc*er*cend*um* & exequend*um* quamdiu ipsi in officio vice*comitatus* extitissent:

Et q*uo*d Maior d*icte* Ciuitat*is* (etc.) p*ro* tempo*re* existente[1] no*mina* huiusmodi [2] vicecomitu*m* d*icti* Comi*tatus* Ciuitat*is* p*redicte* sic iuratorum

p*er* lit*er*as suas patentes sigillo officii Maioratus illius sigillandas in Cancellar*iam* nostram [3] (*sic*) & hered*um* nostrorum de tempo*re* in tempus indilate c*er*tific[er]et:

Quodque huiusmodi vicicomites Ciuitat*is* p*redicte*, qui p*ro* tempo*re* essent, Com*itatus* nostros [3] Ciuitat*is*

p*redicte* infra Ciuitatem illam de mense in mensem p*er* diem Mar*tis* Annuatim ten[er]ent imp*er*petuum:

Et q*uo*d h*aberent* & exercerent omnimodas tales potestatem, iurisdic-

*cion*em, auctoritatem & lib*er*tatem ac quecumque alia ad officia vice*comitatus* p*er*tinen*cia* in eisdem Ciuitate

[1] Mem. R. existens. [2] leaf 384.
[3] Note change of person.

said city (etc.), hamlets, and precinct of the same, as any other his sheriffs, or (those of) his heirs, within the kingdom of England should have and ought to have in their baily-wicks.

[And that the same former king, his heirs (etc.) should after the same feast cause to be made and directed to the sheriffs of the city of Coventry for the time being all and every his and his heirs' writs, bills, warrants and mandates, which should be directed or executed concerning any cause, matter or thing, or any causes, matters or things whatever, arising within the city (etc.) after the said feast of S. Nicholas, and which ought to have been directed to the sheriff of Warwickshire by him to be served and executed if the said city (etc.), the hamlets (etc.) had not been made a whole county in itself,

[And that no other sheriff of his kingdom of England, or bailiff, or servant of any sheriff of the same his kingdom, save only his and his heirs' sheriffs of the city aforesaid, their bailiffs, officers or servants, should, after the aforesaid feast, enter into the same city, the parts and precincts aforesaid, or by any means or in

(etc.), hamlett*is* & *pro*cinctu eo*rundem*, quales & qualia aliqui alii vice*comites* sui & hered*um* suo*rum* infra regnu*m* Anglie, in balliuis suis h*a*berent & h*ab*ere deberent:

Et q*uod* idem nup*er* Rex, hered*es* et successores sui, *omnia* & sing*ula* br*evia*, billas, *pre*cepta & manda[ta] sua[1] hered*um* & successo*rum* suo*rum*, que ex quacu*m*que causa, re, vel mat*eria*, seu quibuscu*mque* causis, reb*us* vel mat*eriis* infra Ciuitatem (etc.) hamlett*os*, p*arcellas* & *pro*cinctu*m* *pre*dicta em*er*gente vel em*er*gentib*us* post d*ictum* festu*m* S. Nich*ol*ai essent dirigend*a* seu exequend*a*, & que vici*comiti* Com*itatus* Warr*wicensis* dirigi p*er* ipsu*m* s*er*uiri & exequi deberent, si iidem Ciuitas (etc.), hamletti, p*ar*celle & *pro*cinctus integ*er* Com*itatus* p*er* se *facti* non fuissent, vicicomitib*us* Ciuitat*is* de Couentr*ia* *pro* tempo*re* exist*entibus* post idem festu*m* fieri & dirigi fac*eret* & hered*es* (etc.) sui pred*icti* fieri & dirigi fac*erent*:

Et q*uod* nullus alius vice*comes* regni sui Anglie, aut ball*iu*us seu s*er*uiens alicuius vice*comitis* eiusdem regni sui, nisi solomodo vice*comites* sui & hered*um* suo*rum* Ciuitat*is* *pre*dicte & eo*rum* ball*iui*, Ministri, vel s*er*uientes, eand*em* Ciuitatem (etc.), hamlett*os* (etc.), post festu*m* *pre*d*ictum* aliqualiter ingrederet*ur* seu ingrederent*ur* ad quicq*uam* q*uod* ad

[1] MS. inserts "&" here.

any wise perform or execute anything at all there which should or might pertain to the office of sheriff, neither to intermeddle in the same in any wise :

[And that all sheriffs of the said county and bailiffs of the said city (etc.), who after the feast aforesaid should be bailiffs and sheriffs, should make their several accounts of or for the issues of their office pertaining or which ought to pertain to the said former king, as aforesaid, or to his heirs, every year before the treasurer and barons of his Exchequer and of his heirs, or before the barons of the same Exchequer, and that they should for ever do all things whatsoever belonging to their offices, or either of them, or for the performance of their offices, or either of them, by their sufficient attorneys constituted by their letters patent directed unto the aforesaid barons :

officium vicecomitatus pertineret, seu pertinere potuisset, ibidem quouismodo exercendum vel exequendum, nec se aliqualiter intromitteret in eisdem :

Et quod singuli vicicomites eiusdem Comitatus ac balliui Ciuitatis (etc.) predicte, qui post festum predictum vicecomites & balliui essent,

de siue pro exitibus officii sui eidem, vt premittitur, nuper Regi & heredibus suis pertinentibus vel pertinere

debentibus quolibet anno coram Thesaurario & Baronibus de Scaccario suo & heredum suorum vel coram baronibus de eodem Scaccario separatim computarent, & omnia quecumque ad officia sua seu eorum alterum

spectancia siue pro officiis suis, seu eorum altero, faciendis facere possit & possint imperpetuum per sufficientes attornatos suos, per literas suas patentes prefatis baronibus dirigendas, constituendos :

[And that no sheriff of the same county or bailiff of the said city (etc.) should be in any wise compelled or bound to come personally out of the same county for the making of any accounts concerning anything belonging to their offices, or to that of either of them, or concerning any other thing for the performance of their

Et quod nullus vicecomes eiusdem Comitatus, aut balliuus Ciuitatis (etc.) predicte, extra eundem Comitatum ad

Computandum de aliquibus ad officia, seu ad officium alicuius eorum, spectantibus, seu ad aliquod aliud pro

officiis illis seu eorum aliquo faciendis, personaliter venire compellaretur

offices or that of either of them, as in the letters and confirmation aforesaid more fully it is contained.

[We command you that ye neither molest nor grieve the same mayor, bailiffs and community contrary to the tenor of the letters and confirmation aforesaid. Witness ourself at Westminster, Oct. 28, in the 7th year of our reign (1467).]

(*sic*) seu teneretur quovismodo, prout in literis & confirmacione predictis plenius continetur.

Vobis mandamus quod ipsos Maiorem, ballivos & Communitates Ciuitatis predicte contra tenorem literarum & confirmacionis predictarum non molestetis in aliquo seu grauetis. Teste me ipso apud Westmonasterium xxviij° die Octobris anno regni nostri septimo.

PEMBERTON.

EASTER LEET.

[1] ¶ [V. f. p. held before Cuth. Joynour, m., Jac. Rogers, Will. Saunders, b., on May 3, 33 Hen. VIII.] "Ciuitas Couentrie."

[*Magister*[2] Sym. Parker, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Wales, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Tho. Gardynour, Joh. Saunders, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Burdon, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Ric. Lee, Joh. Talontes, Hen. Over,[3] Chris. Waren, Hugo Blowre, Tho. Smyth, Will. Colman, [4]Chris. Bromeley, Rog. Adnet, Will. Norton.] Jury of 25.

[Enacted] that the Millers of the Priorie Milne, the Bastell[6] Milne, & Whit-frere Milne shall pull vpp ther flode-gaites in tyme of great reyne, so that ther be no hurt doon in the Citie by floides by reason of Stoppyng the River at eny of the seid Milnes at eny tyme herafter vpon peyne to forfeit for eu[er]y defaut xx s. [5] "Millers; floodgates to be pulled vp in time off flood." [5]

[Enacted] that no persone or persones at eny tyme herafter shall ley or cause to be leyed by his seruaunt or otherwise eny fi[l]the or dunge in the Churche-yardes of the Trinitie and seynt Michell, or eyther of theme, or at the Priorie Yait, vpon peyne to forfeit for euery defaut iij s. iiij d.; of which forfeyture the fynder or presenter of [5] "Church yardes layne [? lay no] Ashes or muck." [5]

[1] leaf 385. [2] Repeated before all names until note [4].
[3] The Over family came from Cester Over. [4] Untitled.
[5–5] In different handwritings.
[6] The Bastell-gate lay between the Cook-street and Gosford gates. Bastell, or bastille = a small fortified tower.

the defaut shall haue xij d. & the residue to be dyuyded betwen the shireffes & the comen box.

[1] "Millers not to keep swine or ducks." [1]

[Enacted] that the Millers of this Citie shall take for gryndyng of euery quarter of bredcorne to the bakers vij d.; and that no Milner shall keip eny Swyne or duckes, vpon peyne to forfeit for euery defaut vj s. viij d.

THE COMMONS.

The mayor and council agree to a petition

[2] ffor-asmoche as it is perceived & knowen by the cominaltie of this Citie that with the Rentes, issues & profittes of the comen groundes & pastures about the Citie latelie taken in & maid seuerall by auctorite of lete in the tyme of Maister Will. Coton, lait meire of this Citie,[3] Ther haith been dyuers great charges & paymentes susteyned & borne for the Citie sith that tyme, which wolde haue been in maner unportable saue onelie for the said Rentes. And for-asmoche also that it is thought by the cominaltie of the said Citie that the said Rentes in tyme comyng shall growe to great profit for the Citie, The same Cominaltie haue therfor maid petic*i*on & request at this lete to the Meire & councell of this Citie that ther myght be mo of the said groundes, Closez & pastures taken in & maid seuerall for the same vse, purpose & intent as the other Closez latelie taken in be; vnto the which request the said Meire & councell did condiscend & agree. And thereupon ther were thre men appoynted in euery Warde of the Citie to viewe and ssee (*sic*) which of the said comen Closes & groundes be moost meit to be taken in; whose names hereafter ensue.

that more of "the comen Closez" shall be taken in.

The commons are to be inspected by three men from each ward,

Gosforde Streit warde.

¶ Joh. Lawton, Capper, Will. Colman, Cowper, Will. Androwes, Baker.

Miche-parke-stret warde.

¶ Owen Blakemer, weiver, Joh. Stele, boclemaker, Will. Beilie, draper.

Beilie-lane warde.

¶ Joh. Grene, mercer, Rauf Hopkynse, Taillour, Edm. Damport, pewterer.

[1–1] In different hands. [2] leaf 385, back. [3] See p. 729.

[1]Broid Yait warde.

¶ Chris. Wharton, Skynner, Joh. Clerke, coriour, Tho. Diglyng, mercer.

Bisshop-stret warde.

¶ Tho. Owres, baker, Ph. Sherrerd, draper, Mores Gilbert, draper.

Jourden-well warde.

¶ Joh. Hill, Capper, Tho. Philips, Capper, Joh. Borresley, Capper.

Erle-stret ward.

¶ Nic. Hopson, draper, Tho. Napton, boclemaker, Will. Stirropp, flecher.

Smythford-stret warde.

¶ Joh. Sparkes, Sadeler, Art. Gudriche, mercer, Will. Atkynse, flecher.

Croschepyng ward.

¶ Will. Vnderwood, Coruiser, Hugh Dalaway, mercer, Guy Speke, Inholder.

Spone Streit ward.

¶ Joh. Eyburne, tanner, Joh. Stiward, dier, Tho. Amourson, Chaundeler.

¶ Which men for & in the name of the hole bodie of the Citie haue viewed & appoynted the Closez hereafter named & wrytten to be taken in & maid Seuerall for the vse aforseid for euer. who select certain closes to be taken in.

[2]ffurst, a Close without Grey-frere-yait called the litill Podyngcroft[3] & the Towne wall of the yeirelie rent of x s. for the latter half-yeire & comen at Lammas . x s. 10s.

Item, thre fieldes without Grey-freer Yait, called the Crab-tre-feildes,[4] beyng comen at Michelmas & of the yierelie rent for the latter half-yeire of . xxxviij s. viij d. "on of [illeg.] next the Buttes." 38s. 8d.

Item, another feild next theme called the Pit-feild beyng comen at Michelmas . . . . vj s. viij d. 6s. 8d.

Item, a feild of the kynges called the Strip[5] lying next the said Pit-field & comen at Lammas . . iij s. iiij d. 3s. 4d.

[1] leaf 386. [2] leaf 386, back. [3] See above, p. 4. [4] See p. 47. [5] See p. 576.

Item, a litle Croft or Close lying on the southe side a litle Croft lying on the west side Somerlesbuttes, and a great broid Close lying next beyond the same, stretchyng
Hearsall. westward towardes Hethsall, with a pike[1] at the west end thereof, beyng boithe the kynges groundes & comen at
6s. 8d. Lammas . . . . . vj s viij d.

Item, a field of Tho. Bondes called the Rie-feild, lying without the Spone-ende on the northe side the wey ledyng
10s. frome Couentre to Allesley and comen at Lammas . x s.

Item, a feild next beyond that belongyng to the hospitall of seynt John Baptist in Couentre[2] & comen at
4s. Lammas . . . . . iiij s.

Item, on of the kynges feildes lying next beyond the lane ledyng frome Allesley-wey into the iiij li. feildes.[3]
3s. 4d. iij s. iiij d.
2s. 6d. Item, a feild next beyond that . . ij s. vj d.

Item, ij litill medowes of Tho. Bondes lying by the
8s. River vnder the iiij li. feildes . . . viij s.

[4] Item, thre feildes ther, parcell of the iiij li. feildes.
10s. x s.

Item, ij feildes of Maister Stronge[5] lying on the eist
6s. 8d. side the said feildes . . . . . vj s. viij d.

Item, a feild called the Rowe-of-okes-feild[5] with a litle
20s. feild at the south ende of the same feild . . xx s.

Item, iiij pyngilles[6] or Croftes called Ropers-feildes
12s. lying on the back side of Hill-streit & Spone Streit xij s.

Item, a close of Joh. Talontes at the Hill-streit ende
6s. lying at the back side of his barne ther . . vj s.

Item, a Close ther called Litle-Grauntpurs-feild[7]
13s. 4d. xiij s. iiij d.

Item, a Close next Radford callid the Nether-botmans-
8s. acre[8] . . . . . viij s.

[1] A narrow pointed piece of land.

[2] Probably the field mentioned in 1495–6, when a dispute arose concerning common rights. See p. 570.

[3] For the Four-pound-fields see Poole, *Coventry* (Boundaries of S. Michael's parish in 1675 from Harl. MS. 6839, leaf 167), p. 176.

[4] leaf 387.

[5] Strong's Lammas is marked 172 and Row of Oaks 104*b* in a list of names of lands, which list is in possession of the Freemen's trustees.

[6] = paddocks, close. The word is of uncertain origin (*N.E.D.*).

[7] Crampy- (or Grampy) -feld, p. 51.

[8] See pp. 4, 38.

Item, a feild next Radford *that* was Joh. ffoxalles v s. — 5s.

Item, a-nother Close ther of the kynges . . . v s. — 5s.

Item, a Close of the kynges next the land beyond seynt Nicholas Churche[1] . . . . . v s. vj d. — 5s. 6d.

Item, a Close next beyond *that* belongyng to seynt Johns . . . . . ij s. vj d. — 2s. 6d.

Item, a Close on the northe side seynt Nicholas Churche of dyuers menes Rentes . . . . vj s. viij d. — 6s. 8d.

Item, a Close called Seynt-Nicholas-leyes . . x s. — 10s.

Item, a litle Croft of the Tanners . . ij s. vj d. — 2s. 6d.

Item, a Close buttyng on Radford vpon the eist side the towne . . . . . x s. — 10s.

Item, all Closes & feildes betwen Radford & Bishops-yait lying on the west side the wey ledyng frome Couentre to Radford . . . . . .[3] — [2] "Adnet-feild. Herryng willes feild."[2]

[4] Item, ij Closes called the Great Swannes Croft[5] & the Litle Swannes Croft lying without Bisshop Yait[6] xx s. — 20s.

Item, thre feildes without the Newe Yait[6] betwen Seynt Annes Grove[7] & Hulles Milne on the est side the wey ledyng frome Couentre to Whitley . xxiij s. iiij d. — 23s. 4d.

Item, a litle Garden pleke[8] nygh vnto Dilcockes Milne[9] iiij d. — 4d.

Item, a litle paroche or Croft belongyng to the Trinitie gild lying in the Charterhouse-leys nygh vnto the tayllour & Shirmans lodge[10] . . . . . xx d. — 20d.

¶ All which Closes before-wrytten, It is enacted at this present lete by auctoritie of the same, shal-be taken in & maid seuerall foreuer after suche maner, forme & order as the Closes latelie taken in and maid seuerall in Master Cotons tyme, lait meire, be, and the Rentes, issues & profittes of the same to be vsed as the Rentes of the other Closes latelie taken in be accordyng to the acte thereof maid. — All which "Closez" are to be taken in.

¶ And further it is enacted (etc.) that no persone — No holder of the enclosed

[1] This church has long since disappeared.
[2—2] At the foot of the page, but connected by a line.
[3] Blank. [4] leaf 387, back. [5] See p. 46.
[6] This scribe's "Y" and "J" are identical in character.
[7] See p. 47. [8] = plot. [9] See p. 576.
[10] "Milne" deleted. This is the only mention I have found of any property here belonging to the Tailors' and shearmen's guild of S. George.

lands to enjoy privileges of common.

havyng in farme eny grounde*s* now takyne in & enclosed, or before enclosed, shall haue eny mane*r* of catall goyng before the herd or otherwise vpon eny co*m*en grounde of this Citie, vpon peyne to forfeit to the co*m*en box vj s. viij d. for eue*r*y suche defaute; and that no pe*r*sone shall haue in farme eny moo then oon of the said Closes, except he be an Inholder, who shall and may by auctoritie hereof occupie & haue two of the said Closez by the discrec*i*on of the x men appoynted for the lettyng of the same, vpon peyne to forfeit yeirelie xl s. for eue*r*y Close hadd & taken contrarie to this acte to the vse aforseid, pro*u*ided alwey that eue*r*y pe*r*son hauyng eny of the least pa*r*celles of the said grounde*s* may haue & take on other Close by the discrec*i*on of the said tene men.

Only one close to be held in severalty by any farmer, except he be an inn keeper, then he may hold two.

The closes are forbidden to be let to strangers.

¶ Also it is further enacted (etc.) that the x men at eny tyme appoynted to let and set the seid Closez shall not let or set the same but onelie to inh*ab*itaunte*s* of this Citie, and shall soeffer no estraunger to occupie eny of the same, ner eny farmo*u*r to make eny assignee therin, vpon peyne to forfeit x li., that is to say, eue*r*y of theme xx s. for the vse of a[fore]seid.

THE RECORDER.

1 "Eleccio Recordatoris." Election of the recorder.

[Mem., that on May 17, in the above-said year, Edw. Saunders,[2] sergeant-at-law, was chosen recorder of this city. And he was sworn.]

A PROCLAMATION.

"Pro*c*lama*cio*." To be remembered that on May 31, 1541, proclamations were made upon the soil and in the tenements written below by C.

[3] Memoran*dum* quod vlti*m*o die Maii [33 Hen. VIII] pro*c*lama*c*iones facte fuer*unt* super sola & in tene*mentis* subscript*is* per Cuth.

[1] leaf 388.

[2] Saunders became Chief-Justice in 1555, and, dying in 1576, was buried at Weston-under-Wetherley, Warwickshire, where his mutilated tomb remains. See Foxe, *Martyrs* (ed. Malham), 146, for letters from him to his brother, the martyr, Laur. Saunders, and for other letters see Corp. MSS. A. 79, leaf 63. It is possible, though unproven, that both the Chief-Justice and the martyr sprang from the family of the Saunders of Coventry.

[3] leaf 384, back.

Joynour, mayor (etc.), J. Rogers and W. Saunders, bailiffs, and many others of the community of the said city, according to the form of the statute thereupon before published and provided.

Joynour, Maiorem Ciuitatis Couentrie, Jac. Rogers, & Will. Saunders, b., (etc.) ac plures alios de Communitate dicte Ciuitatis secundum formam Statuti[1] inde nuper editi & prouisi.

Jourden Well.

¶ Item, at a tenemente ther of *Master*[2] Grey.
Item, at a tenement ther of Joh. Stronges.
Item, at a Tenement ther of *Master* Hugh Lawtons.

Gosford-streit.

¶ Item, at a tenement ther of Ric. Joyne[r]s set betwene the grounde of the Kynge of the on parte and the ground of *Master* Rog. Wales of the other part.

Miche-parke-stret.

¶ Item, at a tenement there that Joh. Herford holdeth ouer ageynst Hum. Reynoldes house.

Deed-lane.

¶ Item, at a house in a voied ground ther of Ric. Giller, mercer.

Litil-parke-stret.

¶ Item, at a tenement ther ouer ageynst the Deed-lane ende.

Smythford-stret.

¶ Item, at a house & a voied ground ther beneyth the Conducte next a house belongyng to seynt Johns of the west side.

West-orchard.

¶ Item, at dyuers Cotages ther of Joh. Colynse, dier.

Seynt Johns briges.

¶ Item, at a tenement ther of Jasper Owen, Esquier,

[1] Probably this was the act "For Reedifieng of Townes" (32 Hen. VIII, c. 18), 1540, in which the decayed condition of Coventry —among other towns—is mentioned.
[2] Blank.

betwen a tenement of the wardens of thone side and the kynges ground of thother side.

Item, at a Tenement ther of Will. Jackesons.

Cooke-stret.

¶ Item, at a voied ground ther belongyng to seynt Johns wher dyuers tenementes late stoode.

Croscheping.

¶ Item, at a Corner house there of Jasper Owen ouer ageynst Bancroftes-lane.

MICHAELMAS LEET.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Oct. 11, 1541.

[1]¶ [V. f. p. held on Oct. 11, 33 Hen. VIII.]

Jury of 25.

[*Magister*[2] Sim. Parker, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Tho. Gardynour, Joh. Saunders, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Spenser, Tho. Burdon, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Will. Rogers, Tho. Bower, Ric. Ley, Joh. Talontes, Ric. Sewall, Chr. Waren, Hugo Bloure, Tho. Smyth, [3]Chr. Bromeley, Rog. Adnet, Will. Norton, Ric. Humfrey.]

Sheriffs.

[Edw. Damport, pewterer, Ric. Niclyn, Grasier.]

Orders of leet.

[Ordained] that euery alderman of this Citie in his ward shall prepare a fate[5] to meit Charcolles with before the feast of All Seyntes next to thentent to se whether the Coliars[6] sackes be laufull or not.

4"Charcolles to be sold by Lawfull sacks."[4]

Ditches to be scoured out.

¶ [Enacted] that euery man which haith eny landes adyoynyng vnto the lane ledyng frome Hil-streit end vnto the Barkers-buttes shall sufficientlie score ther dyches ther before Candlemas next, vpon peyn of euery man which doith not to forfeit vj s. viij d.

All "walkers" to dress cloth within the city.

¶ [Enacted] that all walkers belongyng to this Citie shall burle ther Clothes within the Citie, vpon peyne to forfeit for euery burled owt of the Citie xx s. And that no Clothier shall put eny Cloith to eny walker which woll not burle it in the Citie, on peyne to forfeit for euery defaut vj s. viij d.

[1] leaf 388. [2] This precedes every name until note 3.
[3] Untitled. [4—4] In different handwritings.
[5] A dry measure usually = 9 gallons, v. *N.E.D.* s.v. Fat.
[6] = charcoal-burners.

CHRIS. WAREN, MAYOR, 1542.

LEETS.

"Ciuitas Couentrie."

[1] ¶ [V. f. p. held before Chris. Waren, m., Edw. Damport, Ric. Niclyne, b., on Apr. 25, 34 Hen. VIII.]

Jury of 25.

[*Magister* [2] Tho. Gardynour, Tho. Banwell, Ric. Herryng, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Sym. Parker, Cuth. Joynour, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Burdon, Joh. Saunders, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Ric. Ley, Joh. Talontes, ["Joh." erased] Ric. Sewell, Hugo Bloure, Will. Saunders, [3] Owin Blakemer, Will. Vnderwood, Art. Goodrich, Will. Norton, Ric. Humfrey.]

Orders of leet. Concerning [4] "breke." [5] "Brick the Assize." [5]

¶ [Enacted] that all brekemakers, which make breke to be sold in the Citie, shall make the same after the olde assise, that is to say, tene Inches longe, v ynches in breid, & two Inches & dim. in thyckenes, vpon peyn to forfeit for euery hundred xij d.

Concerning "paue-mentes." [5]

[Ordained] that euery person in this Citie shall sufficientlie make ther pavementes befor the feast of thassencion of our Lord next, vpon [peyn] to forfeit iij s. iiij d.

"Craftes [4] [5] off Tilers and Coupers." [5]

It is also ordeyned that the feliship & Craft of Tilers shabbe (*sic*) associat with the Craft of Cowpers & pynners. And that the Craft & company of Carpenters shal-be contributories to the said Craftes of Cowpers & pynners after such [pro]porcion & rate as thei haue been accustumed in tymes past.[6]

"Ciuitas Couentrie."

[7] ¶ [V. f. p. held Oct. 10, 34 Hen. VIII.]

[*Magister* [8] Tho. Gardynour, Tho. Banwell, Rog. Palmer, [9] Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Sym. Parker, Cuth. Joynour, Joh. Saunders, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Geo. Philips, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Hugo Blour, Jac. Rogers, Will. Saunders, [10] Owin

[1] leaf 388, back. Chr. Waren, who had represented the city in 1539 in Parliament, appears to have been a very zealous Roman Catholic. Rob. Glover, the martyr, accused him of seeking his (Glover's) death.
[2] Repeated before every name preceding note [3]. [3] Untitled.
[4] In the same handwriting. [5—5] In a later handwriting.
[6] There follow the introductory words deleted about the recorder's election. See above, p. 764.
[7] leaf 389, back.
[8] Repeated before every name preceding note [10].
[9] Father of the martyr, Julines Palmer. [10] Untitled.

Blakem*er*, Will. Vnderwood, Hen. Hynd, Will. Stirropp, Ric. Humfrey.]

Sheriffs. [Art. Gudriche, m*er*cer, Tho. Keyvet, Clothier.]

Orders of leet. About "talowe." [Enacted] that all talowe in this Citie shal-be sold after the rait of ij s. the Stone or vnder & not aboue, vpon peyne to forfeit for eu*er*y Stone sold to the contrarie vj s. viij d.

"Candell to be sold at 1½*d.* a lb." It is also enacted that Candell shall-be sold after the rait of j d. q*ua.* the li. & not aboue, vpon peyne to forfeit for eu*er*y li. sold contrarie iiij d.

JOH. SAUNDERS, MAYOR, 1543.

"Ciuitas Couentri*e*." Jan. 25. [1]¶ [Election of officers.]

[M*agister*[2] Cuth. Joynou*r*, Tho. Banwell, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Sym. P*ar*ker, Tho. Gardynou*r*, Ric. Ley, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Spens*er*, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Will. Rog*er*s, Tho. Brewer, Ric. Sewell, Hugo Bloure, Jac. Rog*er*s, Will. Saunders, Edw. Damport, Ric. Niclyn, [3]Owin Blakemer, Will. Vnderwood, Will. Norton, Ric. Humfrey.]

Officers. ¶ [m. [4]Joh. Saunders, m*er*cer; rec. [4]Edw. Saunders, serjeant-at-law; cor. Rob. Grene, "Gen*er*os*us*"; steward, Baldw. Porter, "gen*er*os*us*"; ch. Ric. Wightm*an*, Capper, Joh. Castell, bocher; w. Tho. Beck, bedder, [5]Tho. Amourson, Chaundeler; mace, Hen. Thirkyll; crier, Rob. Swift.]

LEETS.

"Ciuitas Cou*e*ntri*e*." Apr. 10, 1543. [6]¶ [V. f. p. before Joh. Saunders, m., Art. Gudriche, Tho. Keyvet, b. Apr. 10, 34 Henry VIII.]

[M*agister*[7] Cuth. Joynou*r*, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Sym. P*ar*ker, Tho. Gardynou*r*, Ric. Ley, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Spens*er*, Jac. Gilbert, Will. Rog*er*s, Geo. Philips, Joh. Talont*es*, Ric. Sewall, Joh. Herford, Hugo Blour, Tho. Smyth, Jac. Rog*er*s, Will. Saunders, Edw. Damport, Ric. Niclyn, [8]Ric. Wightm*an*, Joh. Castell, Tho. Enderby, Tho. Dyglyn.]

[1] leaf 390. [2] This precedes every name until note 3.
[3] Untitled. [4–4] Preceded by "Magister." [5] = upholsterer.
[6] leaf 390, back. [7] Repeated before each name until note [8].
[8] Untitled.

Orders of leet.

[Enacted] that no bocher or other inh*ab*itaunt of this Citie shall frome-hensfurthe haue or vse eny co*m*en belongyng to this Citie w*i*th sheipp, vpon peyne to be distreyned by the Chamb*er*leyns of the Citie for the tyme beyng, and to forfeit for euery Sheip found vpon the co*m*en iiij d., half therof to be to the vse of the Chamberleyns, and the other half to the vse of the co*m*en box, and to be leuyed by distres.

[1] "The co*m*en for Sheip taken away from butchers. 4d. A sheip forfeit." [1]

None to enjoy privileges of "comen" when they already have common lands to the value of 10s. in farm, except butchers.

[Enacted] that no p*er*sone hauyng in farme eny p*ar*cell of the co*m*en Closez to the value of x s. shall haue eny man*er* of co*m*en for eny beasse, vpon peyn to be distreyned etc. Pr*o*uidet alwey that it shal-be laufull to eu*er*y bocher to vse & haue ther co*m*en for horsez & beassez accordyng to the form*er* act*es* & vsag*es* therof etc.[2]

[3] V. f. p. held on Oct. 9, 35 Hen. VIII.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Oct. 9, 1543. Jury of 22.

[M*ag*ister[4] Cuth. Joyno*ur*, Rog. Palm*er*, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Tho. Gardyno*ur*, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Spens*er*, Jac. Gilbert, [5]Ric. Townesend, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert,[5] Tho. Brewer, [6]Geo. Philips,[6] Joh. Talont*es*, Hugo Bloure, Jac. Rog*er*s, Will. Saunders, Ric. Niclyn, [7] Ric. Wightm*an*, Joh. Castell, Tho. Amo*ur*son, Hen. Hynd, Chr. ? Whayton, Tho. Diglyn, Ric. Giller.]

Sheriffs.

[Tho. Enderby, waxchaundeler, Will. Joyno*ur*, Grasier.]

About "talow and Candell."

[Ordained] that talowe shal-be sold the rait of xxij d. the Stone & not aboue, vpon peyne to forfeit for eu*er*y Stone ij s., and that Candell shal-be sold after the rait of j d. q*ua*. the li. & not aboue.

HEN. OVER, MAYOR, 1544.

"Ciuitas Couentr*ie*."

[8] ¶ [Election of officers.]

Jan. 25. 25 Electors.

[M*ag*ister[9] Chris. Waren, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Sym. P*ar*ker, Tho. Gardyno*ur*, Geo. Philips, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Spens*er*, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seny, Will. Rogers, Tho. Brewer, Ric. Sewall, Hugo Bloure, Ric. Niclyn, Art. Goodrich, Tho. Keyvet, [10] Ric. Wightm*an*,

[1]—[1] In different handwriting. [2] See p. 735.
[3] leaf 391. [4] Repeated before each name until note [7].
[5]—[5] a repetition. [6]—[6] Deleted. [7] Untitled.
[8] leaf 391, back.
[9] Repeated before each name as far as note [10]. [10] Untitled.

Joh. Castell, Joh. Moseley, Ric. Giller, Tho. Diglyn, Will. Norton, Ric. Humfrey.]

Officers.

[m. Mag*ister* Hen. Over, alias dict*us* Waver,[1] m*er*cer; rec. Edw. Saunders, Sergeant-at-law; cor. Rob. Greene; ch. Joh. Hyndeman, ?alias[2] Joynour, Joh. Jeynard; w. Ric. Dodd, m*er*cer, Joh. West, goldesmyth; mace, Hen. Thirkyll; crier, Rob. Swyft.]

LEETS.

[3][V. f. p. before Hen. Over, m., Tho. Enderbie, Will. Joynour, b., on May 6, 36 Hen. VIII.]

May 6, 1541.

Jury.

[M*agister*[4] Chris. Waren, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Sim. P*ar*ker, Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joynour, Joh. Saunders, Geo. Philips, Ric. Townesend, Tho. Spens*er*, Jac. Gilbert, Will. Roger*s*, Ric. Ley, Joh. Talontes, Ric. Sewall, Joh. Herford, Hugo Bloure, Tho. Smyth, Will. Saunders, Edw. Damport, Ric. Niclyn, Art. Goodrich, Tho. Keivet.]

[5]"Sheipp ffa[i]re; none to set penns aboue White-frier-lane end."[5]

[Enacted] that no p*er*sone frome-hensfurth shall sett eny fold or pene to sell sheipp in at the faire tyme in the Gosforde Streit aboue the White-frere-lane ende vpon peyne to forfeit x s.

The "bochers" are permitted to form as heretofore a craft;

[Enacted] that the bochers of this Citie shal-be restored & admytted to be a Craft & a felishipp together as they haue been in tymes past & to haue & vse all ther laudable vsages & customes as they haue doon. And that noon app*r*entice of that Craft, or of eny other Craft w*ith*in this Citie, Ner eny other p*er*sone shall sett vpp & vse ther Craft or occupac*i*on here vntill they haue s*er*ued ther holl app*r*entisshipp w*ith*out license of the Maist*er*s of ther Craft & the felishipp of the same Craft, vpon peyne to be grevouslie punysshed by the discrecc*i*ons of the said Maist*er*s.

no butchers are to set up without having been "apprenticez."

Brewers and "ale-wif*es*,"

Item, wher-as befor this tyme dyu*er*s good lawes &

[1] On this family, whose seat was at Cester Over, see Dugdale, 64–5. Hen. Over became possessed of the Charterhouse soon after the Dissolution; see Whitley, *Representation*, 38.

[2] MS. looks like "ald." For Joh. Joynour's name see below, p. 773.

[3] leaf 392. [4] Repeated before every name.

[5–5] In different handwriting.

Statutes haue been ordeyned & maid at dyuers letes holden within this Citie ageynst the abuses of ale-brewers & tiplers of the same Citie, which former lawes & statutes for lack of due execucion of the same be nothyng regarded nor obserued, and dyuers & meny of the said brewers & tiplers nothyng regarding the displeasure of God, the daunger of the lawes of the realme, ner the loue & charitie which thei ought to bere to ther neighbour, ne the comen-welthe of this Citie, for ther owne privat lucre & singuler availl, do comonlie euery market day forstall & regrait barley comyng to this Citie to be sold, and gredelie geit into ther handes [1] so great quantitie therof that therby the price of the same is moche aduaunced. And then after makyng the same in malt do brewe it & sell ther ale at excessive & vnreasonable prices to ther owne great aduauntage, By reason wherof the said brewers & tiplers be now encreased & multiplied to suche a great nomber that a great parte of thynhabitauntes of this Citie be nowe become brewers & tiplers of ale, & have forsaken ther occupacions & Craftes by the which in tymes past they haue opteyned & hadd a moche more welthy lyvyng then they now haue, Wherby almyghtie God is highlie displeased, the comen-Welthe of this Citie greatlie decayed, and vice, Idelnes, & other innumerable myscheves norisshed and encreased, And shall daylie more & more if spedie remedie be not therin prouided & hadd:

nothing regarding the displeasure of God,

for their own private lucre forestall and regrate barley, and greedily get so much into their hands that the price rises.

There is an "Excessiue number of Ale-houses and decay of Trades," because many of the inhabitants of the city have forsaken their old callings and become brewers and tiplers, whereby God is displeased, and the common-wealth of the city decayed, and vice and idleness encreased.

ffor reformacion whereof it is ordeyned, enacted & established (etc.) that noon inhabitaunt of this Citie shall frome & after the feast of Penticost now next ensuyng brewe or tiple eny ale within this Citie to sell but onelie suche person & persones as shal-be therunto appoynted, named & licensed by Maister Meyre & the Justices of the peace of this Citie for the tyme beyng, vpon peyne to forfeit xl s. for euery monthe that thei or eny of theme shall brewe or tiple contrarie to the tenour of this acte. The same forfeitur to be leuyed & taken by the Shireffes of the Citie & the vnderbeilleffes of the same for the tyme beyng by distresse or otherwise to ther owne vse.

It is ordained that after the feast of Pentecost no person is to brew nor sell ale without licence of the mayor and justices of the peace, under pain of 40s. fine.

[1] leaf 392, back.

Ale is not to be sold above 18*d.* the sextary, with 14 gallons to the sextary,

And that no brewer w*ith*in this Citie after the said feast of Penticost shall sell eny ale aboue the p*ri*ce of xviij d. for on Cestur & xiiij galons to be in eu*er*y Cester, vpon peyne to forfeit for eu*er*y Cestur sold con*tr*arie to this acte vj s. viij d. to be leuyed & taken in fourme aforseid & to the vse aforseid. And that no Tipler or other inh*ab*itaunt of this Citie frome & after the said feast of Penticost shall sell eny ale w*ith*in this Citie to be dronke w*ith*in the house aboue ij d. the galon, & owt of the house aboue j d. ob. the galon, vpon peyne to forfeit for eu*er*y defaut vj s. viij d. to be leuyed & taken in fo*ur*me aforseid.

nor above 2*d.* a gallon within doors and 1½*d.* without.

All measures are to be sealed,

And it is further ordeyned (etc.) that no Tipler or other inh*ab*itaunt of this Citie frome & after the said feast shall sell or vtter eny ale but onelie by such pott*es* and measures as be laufull pynt*es*, quart*es*, pottell*es* & galons, & sealled according to the lawe, vpon peyne to forfeit for eu*er*y [1] defaut vj s. viij d. to be leuyed & taken to the vse & in fo*ur*me aforsed. And that also it shal-be laufull as-well for the Shireffes of the said Citie for the tyme beyng as for the swirdebeirer & meire se*ri*aunt & eu*er*y of theme to take & breke all pott*es* & measures wherew*ith* eny ale shal-be vttered & sold after the said feaste con*tr*arie to the teno*ur* of this acte. And to thentent that this acte may be put in execu*ci*on & take effecte it is further ordeyned (etc.) that all the articles & all the effecte of this acte shal-be yeirelie from hensfurthe declared & given in charge by the Recorder or Stiward of this Citie for the tyme beyng at eu*er*y quarter Cession & lete holden in this Citie, to the intent the offendo*ures* therin may be enquyred of, knowen & punysshed accordynglie.

the sword-bearer and mayor's sergeant having liberty to seize and break all those that are defective.

All the articles of this act are to be given in charge by the recorder or steward at quarter sessions.

The "Milners" are "to be a ffelosshhip,"

[Ordained] that the Milne*r*s of this Citie shal-be fromehensfurthe be [2] a felishipp & a Craft or company amonge*s* themselfe*s* as the moost pa*r*te of the Craftes of this Citie be, and to make lawes, ordyna*u*nces & constitu*ci*ons in their booke for the co*m*en-welthe of this Citie by the assent and allowaunce of the meire and his brethren for the tyme beyng. And that they shall yeirelie electe amongest

to make their own rules,

subject to the mayor's authority.

[1] leaf 393. [2] redundant.

themeselfes at ther day of assemble for that purpose two persones of the same Craft to be gardens and gouerners of the said felishipp & company; which gardens & gouerners shal-be alweyes obedyent to the meire & aldermen of the same Citie & to meynteign & cause the said ordynaunces & constitucions to be well & truelie perfourmed & kept. To the which Gardens & gouerners for the tyme beyng all the said felishipp within the said Citie & liberties of the same shall-be alweys obedyent & confourmable, as-well to meit at all assembles vpon a laufull monycion & warnyng, as to perfourme & keipp the said ordynaunces & constitucions. And that the said gardens shall take & receive as-well of theme that shall sett vpp & begyn to occupie the said Crafte as of theme that shal-be maid prentisez to the same Craft suche fynes & fees as the gardens & kepers of other faculties & Craftes within the said Citie vse moost comonlie to take accordyng to the kynges Statutes & lawes therof maid.

Two persons are to be yearly elected to be guardians,

to whom the fellowship shall be obedient,

and to whom fines and fees shall be paid.

[1] ¶ [V. f. p. held before Hen. Over, m., Tho. Enderbye, Will. Joynour, b., on Oct. 7, 36 Hen. VIII.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Oct. 7, 1544.

[*Magister*[2] Chris. Waren, Rog. Palmer, Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Sym. Parker, Tho. Gardynor, Cuth. Joynor, Joh. Saunders, Geo. Phillipes, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seynye, Will. Rogers, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Joh. Harford, Hugo Bloure, Tho. Smythe, Jac. Rogers, Will. Sanders, Edw. Damport, Ric. Nyclyne, Art. Goodriche, Tho. Keyvet, [3] Joh. Joynoure, Joh. Jonarde, Joh. Moysley, Ric. Humfrey, Joh. Chambers.]

Jury of 29.

[Will Norton, draper, Ric. Hurte, mercer.]

Sheriffs.

[Ordained] at this leete that noo persone of the Crafte or felowshipe of Cappers[5] within the saide Citie shall fromhensforthe vse or occupye to putte forthe any worke callide peece-worke to any persone or persones of the same felowshype or Cratfe, except a laufull and a needefull cause shulde soo requyre, and that the same laufull or

The [4] "Cappers" are forbidden

to give out piece-work,

save for urgent reasons

[1] leaf 393, back. Scribe K.
[2] Repeated before all names until note 3.
[3] Untitled.
[4] In Scribe K.'s handwriting.
[5] For previous rules see pp. 572–4, 670–3.

admitted by the head masters of the craft.

needefull cause shal-be openned and examyned before the heade maisters of the said Crafte for the tyme beinge and by theym admytted and allowed so to be soeffered and doon, vpon payne to forfayte for eu*e*ry defaulte x s. to the vse of the said Crafte.

Searchers to be chosen to make search for "Stolne yarne."

Also it is furthere enacted *that* there shal-be twoo sufficiente and honeste p*er*sones of the saide Crafte admytted and sworne, who shall haue auctoritye to make Searche, as-well for suche peece-worke, as for suspecte and stollen yarne, as-well clothe yarne as cappe yarne, to thentent *that* noo disceyte be therin vsed, vpon like peyne for eu*e*ry defaulte.

Only two "apprentyzes" to be kept, save that during the last year and a half of the term of apprenticeship one more is allowable.

I*tem*, that noo p*er*sone of the saide Crafte or felowshype shall from-hensforthe haue, reteygne or keepe in his house any moo prentizes but onely ij, excepte *that* it shal-be laufull for eu*e*ry suche p*er*sone to take oone prentyse more within oone yeare and a half before the last ende of the yeares and terme of his olde apprentyse, vpon like peyne for eu*e*ry defaulte.

No "Jorneymen" to depart before the week's end without his master's leave,

I*tem*, it is furthere enacted by the auctoritie of the same leete *that* noo Jorneym*a*n of the saide Crafte shall from-hensforthe vse to dep*a*rte or goo forthe of his maisters worke or Servyce at any tyme before the weekes ende oneles he haue the licence and consente of his maister for the tyme beynge, and that he shall haue a laufull and needefull cause soo to doo, and the same laufull and needefull cause to be examyned and allowed before the maisters of the saide Crafte for the tyme beynge,

under penalty of 6*d*.

vpon payne to forfayte for eu*e*ry suche defaulte vj d. to his maister for the tyme beynge. And if his saide m*aister* be remysse or neclygente in levyinge and takinge of the saide forfayture, that then it shal-be laufull for the m*aisters* of the saide Crafte for the tyme beinge to leavye and take the same forfayture to the vse of the saide Crafte.

Anything taken as "Distres or

[1] I*tem*, it is furtheremore ordeyned (etc.) that non inh*a*bitante of this Citie whiche at any tyme hereafter whiche [2] shall distrayne or take any goodes or Catalles as a

[1] leaf 394. [2] redundant.

distres or as a Streyve within this Citie or the liberties of the same shall from-hensforthe impounde, imparke, brynge or delyuer any suche distres or Strayve to any othere pounde thene to the Comon pounde of olde tyme belonginge to this Citye, that is to saye to the pounde of the Newe Yaite or to the Litle-parke, vnder the gouernaunce of the Chamberlaynes of the Citie for the tyme beynge, whiche shall keepe the same as a distres or Strayve accordinge to the order of the Comon lawe, vpon payne of euery inhabitaunte delyuerynge or ympoundinge any distres or Strayve contrarye to the tenor of this Acte to forfayte for euery defaulte vj s. viij d. to be levyed by distres by the Shreffes of the saide Citye for the tyme beyinge to theyre owne vse.

Stray to be to the mon p

The penalty for wrongfully [1] "Impoundyng" [1]

is 6*s.* 8*d.*

And also whereas thinhabitauntes of the Croscheapinge in tymes paste haue not onelie comonlye vsed to laye donge and other fylthe nighe vnto the Crosse [2] there to the great incomoditie of the marketh-place and to the great daunger of infection of the plage, but also haue vsed comonlye to swepe the pavymentes there, and thereby reasynge duste doo deface and corrupte the saide Crosse, It ys nowe enacted by auctoritye aforesaide that noon inhabitaunte of this Cytye shall from-hensfurthe ley any dunge or fylthe in the Croscheapinge, ner shall at any tyme Sweepe the pavymentes there excepte they Immediatly before the Swepe do caste and Sprynkle water vpon the saide pavymentes, vpon payne to forfaite for euery defaulte iij s. iiij d. to be levyd by distres by the Comon Sergyaunte, Cryer and Cloke-berer [3] of the saide Citye for tyme beinge to theyre owne vse.

The inhabitants of Cross Cheaping lay filth near the Cross, heedless of the infection of the plague

and the defacing of the Cross, the practice is forbidden

and an order is laid down for the [1] "watring" [1] of the [1] "streets before sweeping." [1]

Also whereas the highewayes lyinge nere vnto the Suburbes of this Citye been soore decayed and in great ruyne,[4] the occasion and pryncipall cause wherof is that

Evil state of highways.

[1—1] A later handwriting.

[2] This was the new cross built during the years 1541–3 by Sir Will. Holleys, Lord Mayor of London, who entrusted Over and Waren with money for the purpose.

[3] This combination in the present sense is not mentioned in the *N.E.D.* It refers to an official who bore the mayor's cloak.

[4] Dame Swyllington, widow of the recorder, bequeathed by her nuncupative will money to repair the bad roads in and near Stivichall and Coventry.—Whitley, *Representation*, 38.

our-
."

I rdered
t ditches
b ering
the highway
shall be
scoured by
those having
lands adjoin-
ing.

the ditches beinge nighe vnto the same highe-wayes be not Scoured and clensed, It is therfore ordeyned (etc.) that euerye inhabitaunte of this Citie occupyinge or holdinge any clooses, pastures, or othere groundes nyghe vnto anye of the saide highe-wayes, shall sufficientlye clense and scowre all ditches of his clooses, pastures, or other groundes lyinge nyghe vnto the saide highe-wayes before the feaste of Eister nexte, vpon payne of x s. to be levyed by distres by the Shireffes of the saide Citye for the tyme beinge to theyre owne vse, prouided alwaye that if eny persone beynge tenaunte of any suche grounde, as haithe ditches lyinge nighe vnto any of the saide highe-wayes, do leaue the saide grounde at oure Laydye daye the Annunciacion nexte ensuynge this leete That then the tenaunte, whiche shall nexte occupye the same grounde, shal-be bounden by vertue hereof to scoure and clense the saide ditches before Witsontyde nexte, vpon like payne.

"Clothyars & weyvers." The weavers do not make cloth of true breadth,

[1] Also whereas moche complaynte is maide by the clothyars of this Citye for that that (*sic*) the weyvers do not theyre duetye in weyvynge theyre clothes & warpinge theym of laufull breade accordinge to the actes of parliamente therof maide, for that that many of theym haue not lomes & Sleys[2] able & meete for the same to the great Sclander & diffamacion of all the Clothyars of this Citye, It is therfore enacted by auctorytye aforsaide that euery weyvere of this Cytye, whiche hereafter shall take vpon hym to weyve any broode clothe, shall haue lomes and Sleys sufficiente and able to make the same cloothe of laufull breade, that ys to saye, vij quarters within the listes,[3] and noon of the saide weyvers shall refuse to spole[4] the yarne of euery suche clothe if the owner therof soo will or commaunde hym, vpon payne to forfait for euery defaulte vj s. viij d. to the vse of the Shireffes aforesaide. And that euery clothear of this Citye

to the great slander of the city: it is ordered that every weaver shall

make his cloth 7 quarters (1¾yds.) broad.

[1] leaf 394, back. [2] See p. 639.

[3] list = selvage, border of cloth; *within the lists* is usual in statements of measurement. See (1535) 27 Hen. VIII, c. 12, § 2, "Euery brode cloth shall conteine in breadth seuen quarters of a yarde within the listes" (*N.E.D.*).

[4] = to wind on reels.

shall at his libertye weyve his owne clothes, so that he at his enterye and begynnynge paye vnto the occupacion of weyvers iij s. iiij d., and also be contributorye to the weyvers in theyre chardges, as other weyvers be, if he weyve any othere mannes clothes but oonelye his owne.

Every clothier may weave his own cloth, if he pay to the weavers' charges.

It is furthere enacted (etc.) that the Comon Sealler of Clothes within this Citye shall from hensforthe Seall noo clothes but suche as be sufficientlye and truelie maide within the liberties of this Citye, vpon payne to forfayte xx s. for euerye defaulte to be levyed in forme aforesaide to the vse of the Shireffes of the saide Citye for the tyme beinge.

"The Comon Sealler of Clothes" shall not seal any cloth but such as is sufficiently made.

Item, it is ffurthere inacted (etc.) *that* euerye inhabitante of this Cytie whiche nowe is or haithe been or that hereafter shal-be mayour, Shiref, Chamberlayne or wardeyn, and euery inholder, and all and euery other persone and persones, whiche take theym-selfes to be honeste Comyners, within this Cytye yerelie from-hensforthe from and after the feaste of All Saynctes vntill the feaste of the Purification of our Laydye shall cause a lanterne with a candle light to be sette or honge at his doore to gyve light into the Streyt euery night when the moone doethe not Shyne from suche tyme as daylight is paste vntill ix of the Clocke in the nyght, vpon payne to forfayte xij d. for euery defaulte to be levyed by distres by the Comon Sergyant and Cryer of this Citye to theyre owne vses. And that euery constable of this Citye within his warde shal-be chardged to se this acte executed and the offenders therin to be by theym presented and Shewed to the mayor of this Cytye for the tyme beynge, vpon payne to forfayte xij d. for euery defaulte of euerye of the saide Constables to be levyed by distres by the Comon Sergyant, Cryer and Clokeberer of this Citye to theyre owne vses.

Late officers,

innholders,

and all honest commoners are to set up at their doors between All Saints' and Candlemas "Lanternes & light in the nyght."

[Enacted] that noo clothyar of this Citye from-hensforthe shall delyuer to any Carder or Spynner above ij li. & a half of woll for oone weight, vpon payne to forfayte xij d. for euery weght to be levyed by distres by the Shireffes of the saide Citye for the tyme beinge to theyre owne vses.

"Clothyars, Carders & Spynners."

JOH. TALONTES, MAYOR, 1545.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Jan. 25, 1545. Electors.

[1] ¶ [Election of officers.]

[*Magister*[2] Will. Coton, Sim. *Par*ker, Tho. Gardynor, Cuth. Joynor, Chris. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, Tho. Spens*er*, Jac. Gilbert, Rob. Seynye, Geo. Phillipes, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Joh. Herforde, Hugo Blowre, Tho. Smythe, Edw. Damport, Ric. Nyclyne, Art. Goodriche, Tho. Keyvet, Tho. Enderbye, Will. Joynor, [3]Joh. Hyndeman, Joh. Joynarde.]

Officers.

¶ [m. *Magister* Joh. Talont*es*, goldesmythe; rec. Edw. Saunders, sergeant-at-law; cor. Rob. Greene, [4]"sub condicione *quod* continue manebit infra Ciuitatem vel Com*itatum* eiusdem Ciuitatis;" steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Will. Westeley, Capper, Tho. Phillipes, Capper; w. Phil. Sherrarde, drap*er*, Hugo Harvye, Capper; mace, Hen. Thyrkyll; crier, Rob. Swifte.

LEETS.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Apr. 28, 1545.

[5] ¶ [V. f. p. held before Joh. Talont*es*, m., Will. Norton, Ric. Hurte, b., on Apr. 28, 37 Hen. VIII.]

Jury of 25.

[*Magister*[6] Joh. Jett, Will. Coton, Sym. *Par*ker, Tho. Gardyno*ur*, Cuth. Joyno*ur*, Chris. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Geo. Philips, Tho. Spens*er*, Jac. Gilb*ert*, Rob. Seny, Will. Rog*ers*, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Hugo Broure (*sic*), Will. Saunders, Ric. Niclyn, Art. Gudrich, Tho. Enderby, Will. Joyno*ur*, [7]Will. Westley, Tho. Philips, Rad. Hopkyns, Tho. Wheteley, Joh. Joyno*ur*.]

Cappers."

[Enacted] that no Capp*er* shall haue eny mo pr*enteses* at ones then ij, savyng that he may on yeire & a half before thende of eny app*r*entisshipp take on other new pr*entesse*.[8]

Item, that the Shireffes of the Citie fromehensfurth shall haue the svme of x li. given theme owt of the

[1] leaf 395. [2] Repeated before every name until note 3.
[3] Untitled.
[4] = upon condition that he shall continually remain within the city or the county of the same city.
[5] leaf 395, back. Former scribe of I type.
[6] Repeated before names until note 7.
[7] Untitled. [8] See above, p. 774.

profittes of the *comen* grounde*s* takyn in towarde*s* ther charge*s*, and that no shireff frome-hensfurthe shall pay any Rent for the gaoll-hall.

[1"Shireffes x li. Alowed then toward their Charge and to pay no Rent ffor the Gaole."[1]

[Enacted] that the meir & Shireffe*s* shall frome-hensfurthe keipp ther drynkynge*s* on Midsome*r* nyght & saynt Pete*r*s nyght[2] befor the watche & not after as haithe been vsed in tymes past.

The Midsummer armed "Watche."

[Enacted] that *Maister* meir for the tyme beying shall haue & correcc*i*on & punysshe*m*ent of bakers and not the m*aister* of the Craft of bakers, as he haith hadd in tymes past.

[1]The "bakers" are "not to punish any offenders, but the mayor."[1]

[3] [V. f. p. held on Oct. 4, 37 Hen. VIII.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Oct. 4. Jury of 27.

[*Magister*[4] Hen. Over, Will Coton, Sim. *Par*ker, Tho. Gardynor, Cuth. Joynor, Cris. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, Tho. Spense*r*, Jac. Gilbert, Geo. Philippes, Ric. Sewall, Hugo Blowre, Jac. Rogers, Will. Saunders, Ric. Nyclyne, Art. Goodriche, Tho. Keyvet, Will. Joynor, [5]Will. Westeley, Rad. Hopkyns, Tho. Morres, Tho. Amorsame, Joh. Weste, Hen. Hynde, Will. Vnderwoode, Owen Blakemere.]

Sheriffs.

["*Magister*" Tho. Rieley, drape*r*, [5]Tho. Whaiteley, Irenmongere.][6]

JOH. HERFORDE, MAYOR, 1546.

[7]¶ [Election of officers.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Jan. 25, 1546. 25 Electors.

[*Magister*[8] Will. Coton, Sim. *Par*kere, Tho. Gardynor, Cuth. Joynor, Chr. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Hen. Over, Ric. Ley, Will. Rogers, Tho. Spense*r*, Hugo Blowre, Ric. Sewall, Art. Goodriche, Tho. Keyvet, Edw. Damport, Ric. Nyclyne, Will. Joynor, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurte,

[1]—[1] In different handwritings.
[2] See above, p. 35, and Sharp, *Mysteries*, pp. 174–206.
[3] leaf 396. Scribe K.
[4] Repeated before every name until note 5. [5] Untitled.
[6] The "Dick Whittington" of Coventry, see Dugdale (1730), i. 194, *Life in an English Town*, 311. He came to the city "a poor boy in a white coat." He traded in Spanish iron, and a servant of his obtained by mistake a chest of ingots of silver in lieu of one of steel gads at a fair in Spain. Wheatley gave the money towards the foundation of the Bablake School, and other charities.
[7] leaf 396, back.
[8] Repeated before all names until note 1, p. 780.

[1] Tho. Philipes, Will. Westeley, Joh. Nethermyll, Tho. Owres, Tho. Amorsame, Joh. Weste.]

Officers.

[m. "*Magister*" Joh. Herforde, lethereseller; [2] M.G.S.T. and M.G.C.C. "*Magister*" Joh. Talontes, goldesmythe; rec. Edw. Saunders, sergeant-at-law; cor. Tho. Gregorye; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Tho. Seynye, Edm. Brownhill, drapers; w. Tho. Bustarde, mercer, Ric. Smythe, vyntenar; mace, Hen. Thirkyll'; crier, Rob. Swifte.]

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." May 18, 1546.

[3] ¶ [V. f. p. held before Joh. Herforde, m., Tho. Rieley, Tho. Whayteley, b., on May 18, 38 Hen. VIII.]

Jury of 25.

[*Magister*,[4] Joh. Talontes, Sim. Parker, Tho. Gardynor, Cuth. Joynor, Chr. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Will. Rogers, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Geo. Philipes, Ric. Ley, Tho. Smythe, Will. Saunders, Edw. Damport, Art. Goodriche, Tho. Keyvet, Will. Norton, [5]Edm. Brownehill, Tho. Seynye, Tho. Bustarde, Hen. Hynde, Will. Styrope, Ric. Warnar, Rob. Colman, Owin Blakemere.]

Orders of leet. "Corne set vp." [6]

[7] ¶ It is enacted that no housholder of this Citie shall receive eny straungers corne to keipp it in his house frome market day to *mar*ket day, vpon payn to forfeit for *euery* default vj s. viij d.

Butchers forbidden to sell hides to foreign "Tanners" on Fridays.

¶ Item, that no bocher of this Citie frome-hensfurthe put eny slaughter hides to sale to eny forene tanner on the Fryday, but vpon the Saturday and on other dayes when thei put ther fleshe to sale, and then to no foren tanner before ix of the Clock, and in noon other place but at the Bull-ryng, vpon peyn of x s. for *euery* default.

The "bochers off" the "euntrey to sell flesh on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturdays."

¶ Also it is enacted that the bochers of the Citie shall permytt & soeffer all foren bochers quietlie to sell ther vitayll in the Citie euery Tuesday, Thuresday & Saturday bryngyng ther hides & talow with theme, vpon payn of xx s. for *euery* default, and to be further punysshed by imprisonment by discreccion of Maister meir.

[1] Untitled.
[2] "In officium Magistri gildarum S. Trinitatis et Corporis *Christi* in Ciuitate predicta."
[3] leaf 397. Scribe K.
[4] Repeated before every name until note 5. [5] Untitled.
[6] In different hands. [7] Former scribe of I type.

Item, it is enacted that the acte maid for pece-work & takyng of *pr*entesez in *Maister* Overs yeire[1] shall stand in force. "Cappers."

[Leet held in the 38th year of the reign of Lord Henry VIII, by the grace of God, King of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and Supreme Head of the English and Irish Church in this country.

[2] [V. f. p. held on Oct. 5, "a. r. *domi*ni Henrici octaui, Dei *gracia* Anglie, ffrancie, & Hib*er*nie Regis, fidei defensoris, & in terra eccl*es*ie Anglicane & Hib*er*nice Supremi Capit*is*, tricesimo octauo."] "Ciuitas Coventrie."

[Magister[3] Joh. Talont*es*, Sim. P*ar*kere, Chris. Warene, Joh. Saunders, Hen. Over, Geo. Philippes, Jac. Gilbert, Jac. Rogers, Will. Saunders, Edw. Damport, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurte, [4] Tho. Seynye, Edm. Brownehill, Tho. Bustarde, Ric. Smythe, Chris. Bromeley, Tho. Owres, Hen. Hynde, Will. Styrope, Will. Westeley, Hugo Harvye, Joh. Bolat, Will. Forster, Phil. Sherarde.]

[Joh. Warde, m*er*cer, Tho. Amorsame, Chaundelar.] Sheriffs.

[5] [Enacted] that no p*er*sone after the feast of All Seynt*es* next ensuyng this leet shall keipp eny alehouse or Inne w*ith*out the walles of the Citie except suche as shal-be admytted & allowed so to do by *Maister* Meire & the Justices of peace, vpon peyne to forfeit for eu*er*y def*ault* xl s. to be leuyed by distresse to the vse of the Shireffes.[6] No "alehousez" are to be kept without license of the mayor and Justices.

Item, also that Peter Typpyng & Joh. Walland shall not frome-hensforthe keipp eny ale-house or vitayllyng, ner lodge eny p*er*sones where thei now dwell, vpon like payn. Typping and Walland are forbidden to keep an alehouse.

JAS. ROGERS, MAYOR, 1547.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEET.

[7] ¶ [V. f. p. held before Jas. Rogers, m., Joh. Wayde, Tho. Amorsame, b., on May 3, 1 Edw. VI.[8]] "Ciuitas Coventrie."

[1] See above, p. 774. [2] leaf 398. Scribe K.
[3] Repeated before names until note 4. [4] Untitled.
[5] Former scribe of I type.
[6] This act is in advance of contemporary legislation. "By the Statute of 5 and 6 Edw. VI, c. 25 (1552), the Justices of the Peace were authorised to select . . . certain persons, who were alone to exercise the trade of keeping a common alehouse." v. Webb, *Liquor Licensing*, 5. [7] leaf 399, back. Scribe K.
[8] The king's titles are repeated as above.

Jury.

[*Magister*[1] Joh. Saunders, Tho. Gardynor, Cuth. Joynor, Chris. Warene, Hen. Overe, Joh. Talontes, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Geo. Phillipes, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Hugo Blowre, Edw. Damport, Ric. Nyclyne, Will. Saunders, Tho. Keyvet, Will. Joynor, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurte, [2]Hen. Lynggham, Ric. Scotte, Joh. Chambers, Ric. Warnar, Will. Vnderwoode, Rad. Hopkyns.]

[3]"Millers orders to be Aproued by the mayor, and his Councell."[3]

[4][Enacted] that the Milleries [? Milners] of this Citie shall frome-hensfurthe be vnyted together as a felishipp & company of themeselfes, and shall haue libertie to chose Maisteres & kepers of ther occupacione for the good rule & order of the same, So that thei make orders but suche as Maister Meire & his councell shall allowe.[5]

[6]"Constablez of Any persons vnder the degree off sheriffs."[6]

¶ It is enacted that euery alderman shall frome-hensfurth appoynt the moost discretest & substanciallest men in his ward Vnder the degre of a Shereff to be Constablez.

"Cowpers."

[7] It is also enacted that the Cowpers of this Citie shall frome-hensfurthe be associat with the Tilers & pynners, and bere suche charges as thei haue doon in tymes past; And that the Cowpers shal-be the hedd & cheffest of theim & stand charged with the pagyaunt.

"Walkers" are to be a company.

[Enacted] that the walkers of this Citie shall frome-hensfurthe be a felishipp & company of themeselfes, and haue libertie to electe & [c]hoose maisters of ther Company for the good order of the same, & meynteynyng of true clothyng.

The "bochers" and tanners.

Item, that no bocher of this Citie shall sell eny hydes of beasse to eny forene Tanner before xij of the clock on the Fryday, vpon peyn to forfeit xx d. for euery hide sold contrarie, and after xij of the Clock to sell at ther pleasures, notwithstandyng eny former actes maid to the contrarie, the same to be levied to the vse of the shireffes.[8]

[6]"Chamberleyns.

¶ *Item*, if any inhabitaunte of this Citie by hymself or by his deputie or seruaunt do take frome the Chamberleyns of this Citie or ther seruauntes or frome eny other

[1] Repeated before all names until note 2.
[2] Untitled. [3—3] In different hands.
[4] Scribe of I type.
[5] See above, pp. 772–3. [6—6] In different handwritings.
[7] leaf 400. [8] See above, p. 780.

Citizene by wey of Rescue eny catall beyng laufullie taken as a distres for damage-fesaunt[1] in the Comons of this Citie, or otherwise, The same *per*sone or *per*sones so offendyng shall forfeit for eu*er*y suche default iij s. iiij d. to the Chamb*er*leyns to be levyed by wey of distresse of the offendo*ures* goode*s* immediatlie after the p*ro*ve of eu*er*y suche offence maid befor *Maister* Meire of this Citie for the tyme beyng.

Any making Rescues to

forfeit 3*s*. 4*d*.'

[2] [V. f. p. held on the feast of S. Luke the Evangelist, 1 Edw. VI.]

"Ciuitas Coventrie." Oct. 18.

[Magister[3] Joh. Saunders, Sim. P*ar*kere, Tho. Gardyno*ur*, Cuth. Joyno*ur*, Chr. Warene, Hen. Over, Joh. Talontes, Joh. Herforde, Will. Rogers, Tho. Spens*er*, Jac. Gilbert, Geo. Philippes, Ric. Sewall, Hugo Blowre, Ric. Nyclyne, Will. Saunders, Tho. Keyvet, Will. Joyno*ur*, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurte, Tho. Rieley, Tho. Whiteley, [4]Hen. Lyngham, Ric. Scotte, Joh. Fytherbert, Ric. Sparrye, Hen. Hynde, Will. Sterope, Ric. Smythe.]

Jury of 29.

¶ [Joh. Nethermyll, drap*er*, Will. Westeley, Capper.]

Sheriffs.

¶ To thentente it maye be knowen whethere there be moo people in this Citye of the pooreste sorte that muste bee sette on worke[5] then othere *that* be able to sette theym on worke It ys inacted (etc.) that eu*er*y alderman in his warde shall make a boke of the names of all thinh*ab*itauntes of his warde and whoo be the lordes and owners of theyre howses, wherin they dwell, of what age the inh*ab*itaunt*es* be and howe longe they have dwelled in the Citye, whethere they be maried or not, and what nombere of chylderne they haue, of what occupacion they be, and whethere they be able to sette theymselfes on worke or not; and the same booke to exhibette vnto *Maister* Mayo*ur* and the Counsaill of this Cytie before the feaste of the Nativitye of oure Lorde God nexte.

Orders of leet.

An order "for the aldermen" to take a census of the inhabitants of their respective wards, with particulars concerning houses, landlordage, length of residence, marriage, family, and capacity for work.

[6] ¶ Item, whoo be able to sette othere on worke and howe many they doo vse to sette on worke weekely and

The census to include the names of possible employers, and

[1] = doing damage, *i. e.* trespassing.
[2] leaf 403. Scribe K.
[3] Repeated before all names until note 4. [4] Untitled.
[5] Cf. the census taken of the Warwick mendicants in 1586, v. Kemp, Joh. Fisher, pp. 165, *sqq.*
[6] leaf 403, back.

whoo they be, and if it be perceyved that the pooreste sorte is the greateste nombere that then suche persones as haue the Cityes moneye in Stooke be ordered to sette thee pore[1] on worke, and if they be not able to sette theym all on worke that then they be appoynted to other, and that they shall not worke *with* any othere so longe as they that they be appointed vnto will sette theym on worke.

the number of those they employ, and the workmen being in excess of employers' needs [? In that ward] they shall be set on by other masters.

¶ Item, if he that theye were appointed to worke *with* refuse theyre worke, or be not able to sette theym any longer at worke, he shall then give his laborer warnynge therof, and shall lykewise declare the same to the alderman, who vpon inquisition maide amongste his neyghtbors (*sic*) who lackethe any workemen shall apoynte hym a newe *Maister* other in that warde or ellis in an-other warde.

Masters unable to employ workmen shall give them warning, and inform the alderman, in order that fresh situations may be found.

¶ This beyng doon if any be idle and doo not labour truelie & iustely that then the Alderman do pvnyshe hym, and if he doo not then amende, that then the alderman shall cause hym to be banyshed out of the Citye.

Idlers to be punished, and, if incorrigible, banished.

¶ Item, if any persone eythere for age, infirmytie or multitude of childerne, be not able by his labour to gette to susteyne his famylye that then the alderman se hym releved by the Comon almes of the Citye out of the Comon Cheiste.

The deserving poor are to be relieved.

¶ Item, that euery alderman in his warde and the Constables shall goo euery weke oones throughe-out his warde and looke vpon the people what they doo.

"Aldermans charge."

¶ Item, that the mayour and the Councell of the Citye shall sytte purposely oon day euery monethe to here whethere thies thingis be obserued or not, and devyse what may be bettur doon and more for the bettur mayntenaunce therof.

The "Consell" is to "syt" every month to consider these questions.

¶ Item, it is further enacted (etc.) that all men whiche sette any people on worke shall give like wages and paye it in reedye money and not in wares or vitayle, vpon payne to forfayte for euery defaulte vj s. viij d., the oone moytie therof to be to the Shireffes of the Citye for the

It is ordered that "wages" are "given" and to be paid in ready money, on pain of fine and imprisonment.

[1] Blotted. The "money in stook" probably refers to the loan to clothiers in 1518, see above, p. 658.

tyme beinge, and the othere moytye therof to be to hym or theym *that* shall presente and *prove* the same defaulte before *Maister* Meyre for the tyme beinge by wittenes or otherwise, and the offender therin to be ymprysoned vntill suche tyme as he haue paide the same forfayture.

[1]¶ [Enacted] that noo freeholder or other *per*sone or *per*sones shall from-hensfurthe take any *per*sone to be his tena*u*nte in this Citye oneles the same *per*sone be furste examyned before the may*our* and the alderma*n* of the warde from whense he come and what labo*ur* he can doo; and if it be thought that the same *per*sone be not a *per*sone meyte to labor, that then noo *per*sone doo admytte hym as tenaunte to any howse within the Citye, vpon payne of xx s. to be payed in forme aforsaid to the vse aforesaid.

[2]"No stranger to inhabite without license."[2]

¶ [Enacted] that eue*ry* alderman within his warde shall before the feaste of All Saynct*es* nexte make a booke of all the Innes, alehouses and other vitayllinge-howses within his warde, and the same booke before the saide feaste to exhibet vnto *Maister* Mayo*ur*, and that then *Maister* Mayo*ur* with the saide alderman shall consulte togethere, and thervpon take an ordere what Innes, alehouses and other Suspecte houses as well in the Suburbes as other places maye be dismyssed, dissolued and dischardged, & what houses shall be admytted and aloued to remayne and contyneue. And this beynge doon noo *per*sone to take vpon hym after the saide feaste to kepe eyther Inne, alehouse or othere vytaylinge-house oneles he be licensed and admytted soo too doo by *Maister* Mayo*ur* for the tyme beynge by the consente of the alderman of his warde, vpon payne to forfayte xl s. for eue*ry*e monethe that he shall soo kepe or vse any suche Inne, alehouse or vytaylinge-house contrarye to this acte to be paide and taken in fo*ur*me aforsaid to the vse aboue-mencioned; ner *that* noo alehouse-kepere or othere vytaillo*ur*, excepte inholders, shall from-hensforthe lodge any *per*sone or *per*sones in theyre houses, vpon payne to forfayte for eue*ry* defaulte vj s. viij d. to the vse aforesaid.

Every alderman to make a book containing a list of all inns and [2]"alehousez,"

and the mayor and justices are to consider which alehouses can be suppressed, and which allowed to continue.

No one is to be permitted to keep an ale-house without licence of the mayor and aldermen of the ward.

[1] leaf 404. [2–2] In handwriting of former scribe of I type.

It is ordered that "no laborer" is to be in the alehouse on the "worke-day."

And forasmuche as it is daylye seen that they whiche be of the poorestе sorte doo sytte all daye in the halehouse drynkynge & playnge at the Cardes and tables and spende all that they can gett *pro*digally vpon themselfes to the highe displeasure of God and theyre owne ympou*er*shynge, whereas if it were spente at home in theyre owne houses theyre wiffes and childerne shulde haue p*ar*te therof, It is therfore ordeyned (etc.) *that* noo laborer, Journeym*an* or prentyse vpon any worke daye shall from hensforthe resorte to any Inne, taverne, or alehouse to eate or drynke, vpon payne of ymprysonemente by the space of oone day and oone night.

It is ordered that "ale" shall be sold at 1*d.* a gallon.

[1] ¶ [Enacted] that noo brewer or Typpelar within this Cytye from and after the feaste of All Saynct*es* next ensuynge shall sell any of theyre best ale or beste beere aboue the pryce of a peny for eu*er*y galon, and that they shall not sell by any measures but by suche as be laufullye sealled, vpon payne to forfayte for eu*er*y defaulte iij s. iiij d. to be levyed in forme aforsaid to the vse aboue-mencioned.

Acts made at the last leet to stand.

¶ [Enacted] that all act*es*, Statutes & Ordenaunces maide & *pro*uided at the laste leete shall stande and remayne from-hensfurthe in theyre full strengthes and effect*es* accordinge to the teno*ur*s and purport*es* of the same.

An order against excessive fines raised by "Impoundynge of Catall by the Chamberleyns."

¶ And forasmuche as dyu*er*se inh*ab*itauntes, as well of the forence of this Cytye as Cytizense, be ofte and many tymes fore-greved [2] and oppressed by reasone of vnreasonable fynes and executions taken by the Chamberlaynes for ympoundinge of Catall neclygentlye comynge vpon the Comons, and doynge litle or noo hurte vpon the same, to the great Sclandere of the Citye, It is therefore inacted by auctoritye aforesaide that the Chamberlaynes of the Citie nowe beinge and all other Chamberlaynes hereafter for the tyme beinge shall not take of any Cityzene or othere inh*ab*itaunte within the lib*er*ties or Shyre of this Citye for any Catall brought to theyre pounde or taken vpon the Comons, and not beynge wilfully putte thervpon, aboue the some or Somes of moneye hereafter mencioned, that is to saye, for the ympoundynge of any kyen or

The fine for redemption of cattle fixed at

[1] leaf 404, back. [2] i.e. very much grieved.

other kynde of beastes or Catall excepte Sheepe, but oonelie a penny for a beste and not above; And for euery Scoore of Sheepe iiij d. and not above; provided alwayes that Suckinge Calves, or suckinge pygges, or any other kynde of Catall Suckinge be not accompted for any nomber of Catall; provided also that they shall not ympounde any Swyne in maystyme[1] beynge lawfully rynghed by vertue of this Acte, or any custome here-before vsed; provided also that this acte or any thynge therin conteygned do not extende to dissolve and make voide any acte or actes heretofore maid for surchardginge or puttinge Catall vpon the Comons, but that the same actes and euery of theym maye stande and remayne in theyre full strengthes and effectes accordinge to the tenours and purportes of the same, any thynge herein conteigned to the contrarye notwithstondinge.

1*d.* for a beast, and 4*d.* for 20 sheep, not counting the sucking young.

No ringed swine are to be impounded in time of mast, nor are these acts to invalidate those of former times.

[2]¶ [Enacted] that noon inhabitaunte of this Citye shall from-hensfurthe soeffere any woole to be bought and solde in theyre houses in any othere place but onelie in the comon woole-hall[3] of the saide Citye, ner shall sell any wollen yarne owt of the Citye whiche is sponnen in the Citye, vpon payne to forfayte for euery defaulte vj s. viij d., the oone moytie therof to be to the Comon Almes Cheste, and the othere moytye to hym or theym that shall presente and prove the same by wittenes or otherwise before Maister Mayour for the tyme beinge, and the offender therein to soeffer ymprysonemente vntill the said forfayture be paid in forme aforesaid.

"No wole to be sold but in the wole-hale."

¶ [Enacted] that noo boochere of this Citye shall from-hensfurthe sell any Talowe above iij s. iiij d. the stoon, ner shall Sell any owt of the Citye, vpon payne to forfayte for euery stoone iij s. iiij d., the oone half therof to the Shireffes of the Citye for the tyme beinge, and the othere half to hym or theym that shall presente and prove the same defaulte before Maister Mayour by wittenes or otherwise.

No "talow" to be sold above 3*s.* 4*d.* a stone.

¶ [Enacted] that no Chaundelar of this Cytye shall

[1] In time of mast, i. e. when acorns, beech-nuts, etc., are plentiful. There is only one example (1682) in the *N.E.D.* for this word.
[2] leaf 405. [3] See above, pp. 192, 567.

No "candell" to be sold out of the city to retailers.

from-hensforthe sell any Candell above ij d. the pounde, ner shall sell any out of the Cytye to any bager,[1] fyshere, or othere p*er*sone whiche shall sell the same agayne for a geyne, vpon like payne for eu*er*y defaulte to the vse aforesaid, and all the same Candell so sold to be forfayted to the Shreyf*es* of the sayd Citie for the tyme beinge.

THO. KEVET, MAYOR, 1548.

LEETS.

May 16, 1548.

[2][V. f. p. held before Tho. Kevet, m., Joh. Nethermyll, Will. Westeley, b., on May 16, 2 Edw. VI.]

Jury.

[M*agister*[3]] Sym. P*ar*ker, Tho. Gardynou*r*, Cuth. Joynou*r*, Chris. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Joh. Talonte*s*, Jac. Roge*r*s, Tho. Spense*r*, Jac. Gilbe*r*t, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Ric. Niclyn, Will, Saunders, Will. Joynou*r*, Tho. Riley, Tho. Amou*r*same, [4]Mich. Robe*r*des, Tho. ffoyden, Joh. Hill, Joh. Sneyd, Rad. Hopkyns, Hen. Hynd, Joh. Chambe*r*s, Will. Beylie.]

"Water."

¶ [Enacted] that no p*er*sone shall fetche water at eny

"Cunduits."

Condyt in this Citie for eny intent but onelie to dresse meit w*ith*, vpon peyn to forfeit iij s. iiij d. for eu*er*y de*fault*, the on half therof to the Shireffe*s* and the other half to hyme or theme that shall p*r*esent the same.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Jury of 28.

[5]¶ [V. f. p. held on Oct. 9, 2 Edw. VI.]

[M*agister*[6] Sim. P*ar*ker, Tho. Gardynou*r*, Cuth. Joynou*r*, Chris. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Hen. Over, Joh. Talonte*s*, Joh. Herford, Jac. Roge*r*s, Will. Rogers, Tho. Spense*r*, Jac. Gilbe*r*t, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Edw. Damport, Ric. Niclyn, Will. Saunders, Will. Joynou*r*, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurt, Tho. Wheteley, Tho. Amou*r*same, [7]Mic. Robe*r*des, Tho. Foydon, Joh. Hill, Joh. Sneyd, Her. Hynd, Rad. Hopkyns.]

Sheriffs.

[Hum. Reynolde*s*, drape*r*, Will. Beilie, drape*r*.]

Orders of leet.

[Enacted] that all Closez & pastures, as-well w*ith*in the libe*r*ties of this Citie as w*ith*out, whiche in old tyme haue

[8] "Closez within the Libertys of the Citty as well as without" [8]

[1] Badger = huckster, middleman.
[2] leaf 406. Former scribe of I type.
[3] Repeated before each name until note 4.
[4] Untitled.
[5] leaf 406, back. Former scribe of I type.
[6] Repeated before each name until note 7.
[7] Untitled.
[8–8] In different hands.

been vsed to lie & be comon yeirelie frome Lamas vnto Candelmas and frome Michelmas vnto Candelmas, and of lait tyme haue been by vertue of sondry actes of leet maid & kept seuerall all the yeire, shal-be frome & after Lamas next comyng comon yeirelie frome Lamas to Candelmas, or frome Michelmas to Candelmas, as the same Closez & pastures & euery of theme haue been in old tymes past, eny acte, vse or custome to the contrarie notwithstandyng. And that no persone keipp vpon the comens aboue the old stynt, that is to say, ij meche kyen & a geldyng, or ij geldynges & oon mech Cowe, vpon peyn to forfeit to the Chamberleynes iij s. iiij d. for euery default.[2]

are henceforth to be common in time of common.

[1] "Stynt of Catall. 2 Cows & 1 gelding, or 2 geldings, And 1 Cow."[1]

[3] ¶ [Enacted] that noon inhabitaunt of this citie shall frome-hensfurth convey or carie, or cause to be conveyed or caried, owt of this Citie eny wollen Yarne spone within this Citie to be sold in eny forene place, vpon peyn to forfeit for euery default xl s. to be levied by distresse vpon the offendoures by the Shireffes of the Citie to ther owne vse.

"Wollen yarne" not to be sold outside the city.

¶ [Enacted] that noon inhabitaunt of this citie shall haue or vse eny wollen weightes beyng aboue the weight of ij li. & dim., vpon peyn of forfeyture of iij s. iiij d. for euery default to be levyed as is aforseid.

"Weyghtes."

WILL. SAUNDERS, MAYOR, 1549.

¶ [Election of Officers.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie."

Jan. 25, 1549.

[Magister][4] Sim. Parker, Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joynour, Joh. Saunders, Joh. Talontes, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Hugo Bloure, Will. Joynour, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurt, Joh. Waid, Tho. Amoursame, Joh. Nethermyll, Will. Westeley, Mic. Roberdes, [5]Tho. ffoydon, Rad. Hopkyns, Chr. Bromeley, Rob. Colman, Hen. Hynd, Joh. Chambers.]

Officers.

[m. Magister Will. Saunders, Capper; rec. Edw. Saunders, sergeant-at-law; cor. Tho. Gregorie; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Joh. Eyburn, Tanner, Ric. Sewall, bocher; w. Rob. Walden, Capper, Joh. Saunders, bocher; Guid. Speke, mace; crier, Rob. Swyft.]

[1–1] In different hands. [2] See above, p. 729 *sqq.* [3] leaf 407.
[4] Repeated before each name until note 5. [5] Untitled.

BUSINESS.

"Decret[um est]" = it is decreed.

¶ Item, it is ordeyned & decreed this day by the said electours that the Cham[berleyns][1] now newlie chosen, and all ther Successoures beyng Chamberlayns of t[his][1] Citie shall make or cause to be maid at ther owne propre Costes (torn) two perches of the Stone Wall of the Litle Parke with stone, lyme & sand sufficientlie for defence & savegarde of the [2]kynges deers[2] of the Great Parke ther accordynglie as the Citie haith accustome[d][1] & been bound to doo, or-elles to pay to the councell of the Cit[ie][1] xl s. to be bestowed vpon the said Wall by ther (?) discedcione.[3]

The chamberlaine are ordered to make two perches of the stone wall at the Little Park.

EASTER AND MICHAELMAS LEETS.

"Ciuitas' Couentrie." May 14, 1549.

[4][V. f. p. held before Will. Saunders, m., Humf. Reynoldes, Will. Beilie, b., on May 14, 3 Edw. VI.]

Jury of 25.

[Magister[5] Sim. Parker, Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joynour, Joh. Saunders, Her. Over, Joh. Talontes, Joh. Herford, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Keyvet, Tho. Spenser, Jac. Gilbert, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Edw. Damport, Ric. Niclyn, Will. Joynour, Ric. Hurt, Joh. Waid, Tho. Amoursame, Will. Westeley, [6]Ric. Sewall,[7] Rob. Walden, Joh. Saunders, Tho. Sconse, Hugo Hervie.]

Against inhabitants of the city bringing "foren sutes" against their neighbours.

¶ [Enacted] that no inhabitaunt of this Citie shall sue or vex eny his neyghbour beyng a Citizene here, in eny personall accion or sute vnder the some or value of xl s. without license of Maister Meire for the tyme beyng in eny Courte or place owt of this Citie, vpon peyne to forfeit for euery default xl s. to be levied vpon his goodes to the vse of the comen box of the Citie immediatlie vpon prove therof maid befor Maister Meire for the tyme beyng.

[8]"[f]elishipps, ffollowships. Euery man to enter into a ffellowship."[8]

¶ [Enacted] that noon inhabitaunt of this Citie shall frome & after the feast of seynt John Baptist next be in felishipp with eny other felishipp or company thene with

[1] torn. [2–2] deleted.

[3] The handwriting is a careless scrawl here, and the edge of the page torn. *Discede* is given as a form of *decide* in *N.E.D.*

[4] leaf 407, back.

[5] Repeated before every name until note 6. [6] Untitled.

[7] (?) Son of Master Ric. Sewall, whose name occurs earlier in the lists. [8–8] In different handwritings.

that company & Craft whosse occupacion & Craft he or his seruauntes doithe occupie & vse, vpon peyne to forfeit xl s. for euery monthe that he shall vse hymself contrarie to this acte, the [1] on moitie therof to be to Maister Meire for the tyme beyng, And the other moitie to the vse of the felishipp & Craft which shall in that behalf laufullie compleyne for the same forfeyture, to be levied of the offendoures goodes immediatlie after prove therof maid before Maister Meir for the tyme beyng.

¶ Item, wher-as in tymes past Maister Meire for the tyme being haithe vsed to keipp a watche on Midsomer nyght, and the Shireffes another watche on seynt Peters nyght, It is now enacted (etc.) that Maister Meire & the Shireffes shall frome-hensfurthe yoyntelie keipp onelie oon watche on Midsomer nyght at the indeferent costes & charges of Maister Meire & the Shereffes, That is, the meire to pay the on half & the Shireffes the other half.[2]

Only one riding of the armed "watche" to be observed, viz. the Midsummer one.

¶ Item, forasmoche as dyuers inhabitauntes of this Citie for ther owne priuat lucre & gayne do daylie engrosse & geit into ther handes great quantitie of wollen Yarne spone within this Citie and sell the same vnwrought in dyuers places in the Contrey to the great damage & hynderaunce of the comen-welthe of the Citie, It is therfore ordeyned (etc.) that no Citizene here frome-hensfurth shall sell eny wollen Yarne but to suche persones as shall make the same in Cloithe within this Citie, So that weyvers, walkers & Shermen of the Citie may haue the occupacion therof for meyntenaunce of the comen-we[l]the, vpon peyne to forfeit for euery default vj s. viij d. to be levyed vpon the goodes of the offendoures immediatlie after prove therof maid before Maister Meire for the tyme beyng, the on half wherof to be to hyme that shall first compleyn & declare the same, and the other half to the vse of the Citie. And if eny Clothier of this Citie hauyng Clothes maid within this Citie cannot haue & [3] vtteraunce for the same in convenyent tyme, Thene the same Clothier bryngyng his Clothes into seynt Marie Hall on the Wedensday before noon shall haue redy money for

Certain citizens engross "wollen Yarne" to sell outside the city;

it is ordered that yarn shall only be sold to such as shall make cloth within Coventry.

Clothiers who cannot dispose of their cloth are to send it to Saint Mary's Hall on Wednesdays, when it shall be bought from them.

[1] leaf 408.
[2] For the armed watch see Sharp's *Mysteries*, pp. 174 *sqq.*
[3] = ? an.

the same by prouysion of the Citie, so that the same Clothes be truelie wrought & maid.

"Cappers" are to have no more than three apprentices.

[1]¶ [Enacted] that euery Capper of the Citie may haue thre [? two] prentises & no moo, vntill the yeires of the prentisez be expired within two yeires, and then to take another prentese to make vpp the nomber of three.[1] And that no persone of the Craft of Cappers shall put owt eny pece-woork,[2] but to suche of the same Craft as the maisters of the same Craft for the tyme beyng, with the assent & consent of xij of the moost auncient persones of that Craft, shall agree & consent vnto, or that the more part of the said maisters & xij persones shall agre & consent vnto.

No piecework to be put out except to such as the master of the craft and 12 ancient persons of the craft shall permit.

No "Journeymen"

shall keep any quarterages or take fines from strangers coming to work.

¶ [Enacted] that no execucion or fyne shal-be takyn of eny Journeymen of eny occupacion within this Citie, ner no Journeymen[3] shall assemble or keipp eny quarterages or[4] take fynes of eny estraungers comyng to this Citie to worke, vpon the payne to be punysshed accordyng to the kynges actes of parliament in that [? behalf] latelie maid & prouided.

"Chelles-[m]ore."

¶ Also that noon inhabitaunt of Litle-parke Stret or Cowe-lane shall frome-hensfurthe cast eny muke or dunge vnto Chelles[m]ore Courte,[5] vpon peyn of iij s. iiij d. for euery default.

No filth or "dung" to be cast into the churchyards.

¶ And likewise that no person cast eny filthe or dung about seynt Michelles Church-Yarde or the Trinitie Churche-Yard or the Sporn (*sic*) Yait vpon like payn.

[6] "Sheipp. None to be kept by butchers vpon *the* Comons."[6]

¶ Also that no bocher or other inhabitaunte of this Citie shall frome & after Lamas next keipp eny Sheipp vpon the Comons of this Citie, vpon such paynes as be

[1] leaf 408, back. For rules about the Cappers' apprentices, see above, pp. 774, 778.

[2] The first instance of this combination in the *N.E.D.* is dated 1795.

[3] A recent statute (2 & 3 Ed. VI, c. 15) forbade confederacies to raise prices of work, and also permitted free working by masons, carpenters, etc., in corporate towns. For Journeymen's Guilds see above, pp. 91 *sqq.*, 653, 687, 694; *Life in an Old English Town*, p. 97; *Victoria County Hist. Warw.* II, pp. 153-6; for London Journeymen, see Unwin, *Gilds of London*, pp. 224 *sqq.*

[4] "keipp" deleted.

[5] Probably the old residence of the Earl of Chester's children, subsequently a royal palace, see *Life in an Old English Town*, p. 129.

[6—6] In different hands.

lymyted in the acte of let in that case latelie maid etc.[1]

[2] ¶ [V. f. p. held on Oct. 15, 3 Edw. VI.] "Ciuitas Couentrie." Oct. 15, 1549.

[*Magister*[3] Sim. Parker, Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joynour, Chr. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Her. Over, Joh. Talontes, Joh. Herford, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Spenser, Ric. Sewall, Edw. Damport, Ric. Niclyn, Will. Joynour, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurt, Tho. Whetely, Tho. Amoursame, Joh. Nethermyll, Will. Westeley, Joh. Eyburn, Ric. Sewall, [4] Joh. Saunders, Tho. Sconse.]

[Rob. Colman, Cowper, Joh. Thomson, Carpenter.] Sheriffs.

¶ [Enacted] that all the bakers of this Citie shall grynd all ther Corne with the Millers of this Citie, and not with forene Millers, and shall pay for euery quarter of corne gryndyng viij d., vpon peyn to forfeit for euery default doyng the contrarie iij s. iiij d. And that the Millers shall serue the said bakers truelie & honestelie in gryndyng & serue no foreners wherby the bakers of the Citie myght be delayed or disapoynted, vpon like peyn. The "bakers" of the city are to employ resident "Millers" in preference to outsiders.

¶ Also it is enacted that the shireffes of the Citie shall frome-hensfurthe pay the Recorders ffee so longe as they pay no fee-farme[5] for the Citie to the kyng etc. The "Recorder's" fee.

¶ [Enacted] that Ric. Tanner, bitter,[6] shall serue the fisshemongers & other the inhabitauntes of the Croschepyng ward[7] after the Rait of thre bittes for a peny, And all other to be serued after the rait of v bittes[8] for ij d., vpon peyn of xx s. The bittur to serve the fishmongers at the rate of 3 bittes for a penny.

¶ Also that Maister Meir for the tyme beyng shall yeirelie appoynt ij persones of the felishipp of Cardemakers & swere theme to make dylygent serche in the [9] "Cardemakers. The mayor to Apoynt searchers yearly and to swear them." [9]

[1] See above, p. 769. [2] leaf 409.
[3] Repeated before every name until note 4. [4] Untitled.
[5] The fee-farm of £50 a year was frequently in arrears, v. Madox, *Firma Burgi*, 217. In the reign of Edw. VI there was such poverty in the city that the citizens declared to the Earl of Warwick that one or two persons were yearly ruined by the fee-farm payments, see vol. of Correspondence, Corp. MS. A. 79, leaf 63.
[6] = water-carrier. See Gloss.
[7] Those who lived near the conduit could be supplied at a cheaper rate.
[8] v. *E. E. D.* In Worcester leather bags filled with water and borne on horses were called "byttes."
[9–9] In different hands.

seid occupac*i*on for ill wares, and appoynt them a m*a*rke wher*with* to m*a*rke all lawfull wares. And that no p*er*sone after Alhalowtide next shall put to sale or carie owt of the Citie eny Cardes[1] before they be allowed & m*ar*ked, vpon peyn of iij s. iiij d., the half therof to be to the shereffes & the other half to hyme that shall first fynd the same.

RIC. NICLYN, MAYOR, 1550.

"Ciuitas Coventrie." Jan. 25.

[2]¶ [Election of officers.]

[M*agister*[3] Sim. P*a*rker, Tho. Gardyno*ur*, Cuth. Joyno*ur*, Chr. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Her. Over, Joh. Talont*es*, Joh. Herford, Jac. Rog*ers*, Tho. Keyvet, Tho. Spens*er*, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurt, Tho. Wheteley, Tho. Amo*ur*same, Joh. Nethermyll, Will. Westeley, [4] Joh. Eyburne, Ric. Sewall, Joh. Saunders, Rob. Walden, Joh. Chamb*ers*.]

Officers.

[m. "M*agister*" Ric. Niclyn, Grasier; rec. Edw. Saunders, sergeant-at-law; cor. Tho. Gregorie; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Ric. Kylby, m*er*cer, Roland Wilde, Smyth; w. Nic. Hobson, drap*er*, Joh. Sandebroke, drap*er*; mace, Guy Speke; crier, Rob. Swyft.]

[And they are sworn. And because the aforesaid R. Niclyn is a common butcher and victualler they elect C. Waren, draper, Joh. Herforde, tanner, to assist the said mayor in assessing the price of victuals according to the form of the statute.]

Et Jur*ati* exist*unt* etc. Et p*ro* eo quod p*redictus* Ric. Niclyn est com*muni*s carnif*ex* & victu[a]lar*ius*, eligerun*t* Chris. Waren, drap*er*, Joh. Herforde, tann*er*, assistentes dict*um* Maiorem (*sic*) in assessando p*re*cia victual*ium* secund*um* form*am* statuti etc.

LEETS.

"Ciuitas Coventrie." Apr. 9.

[5][V. f. p. held before Ric. Niclyne m., Rob. Colman, Joh. Tomson, b., on Apr. 9, 4 Edw. VI.]

Jury of 25.

[M*agister*[6] Sim. P*a*rker, Tho. Gardyno*ur*, Cuth. Joyno*ur*, Chr. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Hen. Over, Joh. Talont*es*, Joh. Herford, Jac. Rog*ers*, Tho. Keivet, Will.

[1] *i. e.* combs for combing wool. See above, p. 182, for previous troubles about ill-wrought cards. [2] leaf 409, back.
[3] Repeated before every name until note 4. [4] Untitled.
[5] leaf 410. [6] Repeated before all names as far as note 1, p. 795.

Saunders, Will. Roger*s*, Tho. Spense*r*, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Edw. Damport, Will. Joyno*ur*, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurt, Tho. Wheteley, Tho. Amo*ur*same, Will. Westeley, Humf. Reynolde*s*, [1]Ric. Kylby, Rol. Wilde.]

[Ordained] that all suche inha*b*itaunte*s* as occupie the facultie & Craft of dying of Cloythe & no [? in] wadsettyng in houses of ther owne shal-be frome-hensfurthe contributories to the Craft of diers & wadsetters, And to pay yeirelie eue*r*y of theme xvj d. after the rait of iiij d. a qua*r*ter.[2]

Orders of leet. All "diers" to contribute to the craft

4*d.* a quarter.

Also that no inha*b*itaunte of this Citie shall fromehensfurthe forestall or by in-groose eny butter, egges, Cheise, or eny other kynd of vitaill to thyntent to sell it ageyne [or 20 s. fine at every default] and to soeffer imprisonement at will of Ma*ister* Meire etc.

Against [3]"hucsters" and "Regrators."[3]

Also it is further enacted at the petici*on* & request of the comone*rs* [4] of this Citie that the bochers & vitaylloures of the Contrey shall fromehensfurthe haue fre libe*r*tie & be allowed to sell ther vitayll wi*th*in this Citie eue*ry* weike on the Wedensday & Fryday. So that the said bochers do brynge wi*th* theme ther hide*s* & talowe & sell the same also wi*th* ther vitayll in suche place as shal-be appoynted at reasonable pr*i*ses.[4]

The [3]"foren bochers to sell fflesh on Wenesdays and ffridays,"[3]

and also tallow and hides.

Also it is further enacted that noon inha*b*itaunt of this Citie shall frome-hensfurthe shall [5] keip wi*th*in this Citie eny greyhounde*s*, hounde*s*, spanyelle*s*, ferette*s* or nette*s*, or hunt ducke*s* in other me*n*nes waters, except he may dispend xl s. by yeir in lande*s* wi*th*in this Citie, vpon payne to forfeit iij s. iiij d. for eue*ry* default to be levied by the shireffe*s* of the Citie by distresse to ther owne vse.

An act "for hunters."

[6]¶ [V. f. p. held on Oct. 14, 4 Edw. VI.]

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Oct. 14. Jury.

[7]Tho. Gardyno*ur*, Joh. Saunders, Cuth. Joyno*ur*, Hen. Over, Joh. Talonte*s*, Joh. Herford, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Keyvet, Will. Saunders, Tho. Spense*r*, Ric. Sewall, Will. Joyno*ur*, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurt, Tho. Wheteley, Tho. Amo*ur*same, Joh. Nethermyll, Will. Westeley, Humf.

[1] Untitled. [2] See for previous orders about dyers pp. 704, 714.
[3–3] In different hands.
[4] Evidently the consumers were anxious for free trade.
[5] Redundant. [6] leaf 410, back.
[7] No title prefixed to any of these names.

Reynolde*s*, Ric. Kylby, Rol. Wild, Nic. Hobson, Her. Hynd, Ric. Sewall.

Sheriffs. [Ric. Giller, m*er*cer, Hugh Hervie, Capper.]

[1] "Clothiars of this Citie." [Enacted] for the quyetnes of the Clothiers & weyvers of this Citie that all men frome-hensfurthe shal-be at libe*r*tie to put furthe ther yarne to the weyvers in Spyndelle*s*,[2] botomes,[3] or Skeynes, as the weyver & thei cane agre, eny acte or cussetome to the cont*r*arie not-w*ith*-standyng.

EDW. DAMPORTE, MAYOR, 1551.

"Ciuitas Couentr*ie*." Jan. 25, 1551. 25 Electors. [4] ¶ [Election of officers.]

[Magister[5] Tho. Gardyno*ur*, Cuth. Joyno*ur*, Chr. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Hen. Over, Joh. Tallonte*s*, Joh. Herforde, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Keyvet, Will. Saunders, Ric. Ley, Ric. Shewell, Will. Norton, Tho. Wheyteley, Joh. Waide, Tho. Amo*ur*sone, Joh. Nethermyll, Will. Westeley, Humf. Reynolde*s*, Will. Baylie, Joh. Tomsone, [6] Ric. Kylbye, Rol. Wylde, Hen. Hynde, Rad. Hopkyn*s*.]

Officers. ¶ [m. M*agister*[7] Edw. Damporte, pewterer; rec. Edw. Saunders, sergeant-at-law; cor. Tho. Gregorie; steward, Baldew. Porter; ch. Tho. Taylliou*r*, graysyer, Ric. Hopkyns, drape*r*; mace, Guy Speyke; crier, Rob. Swyfte.]

LEETS.

"Ciuitas Couentr*ie*." Apr. 21, 1551. [8] ¶ [V. f. p. held before Edw. Damporte, m., Ric. Giller, Hugo Harvye, b., on Apr. 21, 5 Edw. VI.]

[6] Tho. Gardyner, Cuth. Joyno*ur*, Chr. Waren, Joh.

[1] Scribe K.

[2] = a certain quantity of yarn, in Northamptonshire (v. *E.D.D.*) four hanks.

[3] = a clew or nucleus on which to wind thread; also a skein or ball of thread (*N.E.D.*). Cf. Shakespeare's use of the word as a verb. *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, III. ii. 53, "As you vnwinde her loue from him . . . You must prouide to bottome it on me" (*ibid.*).

[4] leaf 411. Scribe K.

[5] Repeated before every name until note 6. [6] Untitled.

[7] The Damporte (or Davenport) family settled in Coventry about 1500. The most celebrated members of the family were Joh. Davenport, Puritan, who went to New England in 1644, and Christopher, a Franciscan friar, his brother, and chaplain to Queen Catherine of Braganza.

[8] leaf 411, back.

Saunders, Hen. Over, Joh. Tallont*es*, Joh. Harforde, Will. Saunders, Ric. Nyckelyn, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Will. Joyn*our*, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurte, Tho. Wheyteley, Will. Westeley, Will. Baylye, Joh. Tomsone, Ric. Hawten, Tho. Tayl*our*, Hen. Hynde, Ric. Scotte, Ric. Warn*our*, Joh. Sneyde.

Inprimis it is ordeingned and inacted at this *presente* leete and by the aucthoritye of the same at the requeste and desyre of the Comynaltye of this Citie that the Bochers beinge Inh*ab*itauntes of this Citie from hensforthe shal-be all at libertye and haue libertye to sell theyre ffleshe and vitayle at all dayes and tymes in the weeke excepte Soundayes, and at what place so eu*er* or any of theym will wythin the saide Citye, And shal-be noo occupacion or felowshipe as in tymes paste they haue been.

1 "Flesh & Victuals." 1

[Ordained] that the Boochers of the Countrey shall haue like libertye to sell theyre vitayle within the seide Citie at reasonable prices at all dayes and tymes in the weeke (excepte Soundayes), So that they sell theyre hyd*es*, Skynnes and talowe belonginge to the same within the saide Citie, and do not kyll theyre vitayle within the walles of the saide Citie.[2]

"Bochers" of the country are to be permitted to sell meat every day except Sunday, so that they also sell tallow and hides.

[Ordained] that noo vyntenere of this Citie shall sell any Gasconigne[3] wyne wythin the saide Citie by retayle from-hensforthe aboue the rate and price of xij d. the galon, vpon payne to forfayte for eu*er*ye defaulte x s., The oone halfe whereof to be to the Shireyff*es* of the Citie for the tyme beinge to theyre owne vses, and the other halfe to the vse of the fyrste taker and presenter of the same, to be levied by distres of the goodes of the offendours by the Shyreyffes of the saide Citie for the tyme beinge. And the offendours therein to be furthere punyshed by ymprysonmente at the discrec*i*on of M*aister* Mayo*ur* of the saide Citie and his bretherne.

"Vynteners" to sell wine from Gascony at 12*d.* a gallon; on pain of 10*s.* fine and imprisonment.

[4][Ordained] that the ale-sellers and typlers of this Citie shall from-hensforthe sell theyre ale of the best Sourte not aboue the Rate and price of iiij d. the galon,

The "ale sellers" to sell ale at 4*d.* a gallon.

[1]—[1] In a much later hand. [2] See above, p. 795.
[3] See above, p. 24. [4] leaf 412.

vpon payne to forfayte for euerye defaulte vj s. viij d. to be levied in fourme aforesaid to the vses aforesaide.

"The Market. Stalles; none to be set between Broadgate and the Conduit."[1]

[Ordained] that noo man of this Citie dwellinge betweene the Bradeyaite and the Condythe in the Croscheapinge in the same Citie shall from-hensforthe permytte or Soeffer any Stawles or boordes to sell any manore of ware vpon to be sette att theyre doores wythout the Eysynges[2] of theyre howses, nor soeffer any boorde or Stawle to stande in the Streete there, vpon payne to forfayte for euery defaulte iij s. iiij d. to be levied in fourme aforesaide to the vses aforesaide.

"The market. Fysh [and] tanned leather to stand below the Cheeping Conduit."[1]

[Ordained] that all the fyshemoungers and Sellers of tanned leethere, whiche shall sell any fyshe or tanned lethere within this Citie, shall from-hensforthe stande beneythe the Condeythe in the Croscheapinge in the saide Citie to sell theyre wares, vpon payne to forfayte for euery defaulte vj s. viij d. to be levied (etc.).

The millers, wrights and "Tylers" are no longer to be a fellowship.

[3] [Enacted] that the mylners, wrightes and Tilers within this Citie shall from-hensforthe be noo Crafte, felowe-shipe, nor companye nor haue any suche assembles and meetinges as they haue hadde in tymes paste.

The sale of "Hurdellz" without the New Gate.

[Enacted] that noo man shall sell any hordelles or Sparres from-hensfurthe in any other place of this Citie, but oonelie vpon the hurdell hill wythout the Newe-yaite beinge the place accustomed for the same, as they haue been in tymes paste, vpon payne to forfayte for euery defaulte vj s. viij d. to be levied in forme aforesaide to the vses aforesaide.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." Oct. 13, 1551. Jury of 23.

[4] ¶ [V. f. p. on Oct. 13, 5 Edw. VI.]

Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joynour, Chr. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Hen. Over, Joh. Tallontes, Tho. Keyvet, Ric. Nyckelyn, Ric. Sewall, Will. Joynour, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurte, Will. Westeley, Rob. Colman, Joh. Tomsone, Ric. Hawton, Tho. Tailliour, Hen. Hynde, Tho. Owres, Rad. Hopkyns, Joh. Sneyde, Tho. Saunders, Joh. Parker.

Sheriffs.

[Ric. Smythe, vyntener, Tho. Saunders, Graysyer.[5]]

[1] In different hands. [2] = eaves.
[3] Cf. the making and unmaking of the butchers' craft, pp. 739, 770, 797, 803; for the millers' see above, p. 782.
[4] leaf 412, back.
[5] "et Jurat[i sunt]" = and they were sworn.

[Ordained] that noone of the inh*ab*itauntes of this Citie from-hensforthe shall by any barley within this Citie or lib*er*ties of the same but onelye to s*er*ve theyre owne howses with, and to be brewed and occupied in the same, vpon payne to forfayte for eu*er*y defaulte xx s., the oone halfe whereof to be to the vse of the Mayo*ur* and Comynaltie of the saide Citie, and the other halfe to be to the vse of the Shyreyff*es* of the saide Citie for the tyme beinge to be levyed by distres of the goodes of the offendours by the Shireyffes of the saide Citie for the tyme beinge to the vses aforesaide.

[1] "Byers of barly" [1] to make purchase of the grain for their own use only.

[Enacted] that noone inh*ab*itaunte of this Citie shall from-hensfourthe make any malte within the saide Citie for any p*er*sone or p*er*sones of the Countrey of theyre barlye of the Countrey vpon payne to forfayte for eu*er*y defaulte xx s. to be levied in fourme aforesaide to the vses aforesaid.

No inhabitants are to be "malte-makers to forenners."

[2] [Ordained] that the Maisters of the Bakers of this Citie for the tyme beinge that shall wayte vpon M*aister* Mayo*ur* of this Citie to waye breade shall at all tymes from-hensfourthe wey to M*aister* Mayo*ur* as-well Warwicke breade as the breade of the Bakers of this Citie accordynge to the true Syse,[3] vpon payne to forfayte for eu*er*ye defaulte xij d. to be levied in fourme aforesaide to the vses aforesaide. And also it is ffurthere ordeingned (etc.) that the saide Bakers of Warwicke shall come to this Citie wyth theyre breade but oonelie twyse in oone weeke, that is to saye, but vpon the Wednesdaye and the Fridaye accordinge to the olde aunciente order and Custome of the saide Citie, and yf any Citizen do hereafter receave any breade of the saide Bakers of Warwike [4] any breade [4] vpon any other dayes then heretofore in this p*rese*nte acte be lymitted & apointed, that then eu*er*ye suche offendo*ur* in the saide premisses shall forfaite and loose for eu*er*y defaulte xij d. to be levied in fourme aforesaide to the vses aforesaide.[5]

"To wey Warwicke breade."

"The bakers of Warwicke ij dayes in the weeke and noo moore."

Item, it is ffurthere ordeingned and inacted at this present leete and by the aucthoritye of the same that

[1—1] Marginal notes are in the hands of this same scribe.
[2] leaf 413. [3] = assize. [4—4] redundant. [5] See p. 717.

"No man to receave any fysshers horses ladon" with fish.

noone inholder or other *per*sone within this Citie shall from-hensforthe receave into theyre howses any of the fyshe-sellers horses repayringe to this Citie ladon with fyshe, but shall suffere theym to vnloode theyre horses at the fyshe boordes in the markethe place, vpon payne to forfayte for eu*er*ye defaulte xx s. to be levied in fourme aforesaide to the vses aforesaide.

"To Scowre the River of Shirbourne.

[Ordained] at this presente and by the aucthoritye of this *prese*nte leete that all the inh*ab*itaunt*es* that dwell within this Citie and haue gardeyns and groundes adioynynge to the River of Shyrbourne from Saunte Johns bridge to the Sponne brooke in the Puddinge-Crofte shall Clense and Scowre the same eu*er*y man his porcion before the feaste of All Sainct*es* nexte, vpon payne eu*er*ye man to forfayte for eu*er*y defaulte vj s. viij d.,

No man to caste any donge into the River of Shyrbourne."

and noo *per*sone or *per*sones at any tyme hereafter to caste any donge or fylthe into the saide River, vpon like payne to be levyed in fourme aforesaid to the vses aforesaide.

RIC. HURTE, MAYOR, 1552.

"Ciuitas Coventrie."

[1] ¶ [Election of officers.]

Jan. 25, 1552.

25 Electors.

Tho. Gardyno*ur*, Cuth. Joyno*ur*, Joh. Saunders, Hen. Over, Joh. Tallont*es*, Joh. Harforde, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Keyvet, Will. Saunders, Ric. Nyckelyn, Ric. Ley, Tho. Wheyteley, Ric. Sewall, Joh. Waide, Tho. Amo*ur*same, Will. Westeley, Humf. Reynold*es*, Will Bailye, Joh. Tomsone, Ric. Giller, Hugo Harvie, Tho. Taillo*ur*, Hen. Hynde, Rad. Hopkyns, Thos. Owres.

Officers.

[m. Ric. Hurte, m*er*cer; rec. Edw. Saunders, sergeant-at-law; cor. Tho. Gregorye; steward, Baldw. Porter; ch. Joh. Rooper, whittawer, Chr. Tylinge, weyver; w. Math. Robbeson, m*er*cer; Edw. Pell, drap*er*; mace, Guy Speke; crier, Rob. Swyfte.]

LEETS.

May 10, 1552.

[2] [V. f. p. held before Ric. Hurte, mayor, Ric. Smythe, Tho. Saunders, b., on May 10, 6 Edw. VI.]

[1] leaf 413, back. [2] leaf 414.

Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joynour, Joh. Saunders, Tho. Keyvet, Will. Saunders, Ric. Nyckelyn, Edw. Damporte, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Will. Hyndeman, Will. Norton, Will. Westeley, Will. Baylye, Rob. Colman, Joh. Tomsone, Ric. Giller, Hugo Harvye, Joh. Rooper, Chr. Tylynge, Edw. Pell, Joh. Sneide, Ric. Sewall, jun., Tho. Kirvyne, Tho. Owres, Joh. Saunders, Ric. Scotte. Jury of 26.

[Enacted] that all the Comon brewers within this Citie whiche shall hereafter brewe ale and beare to sell within the same Citie shall from-hensfourthe sell theyre ale and beere after the rate and price of twoo shillinges the Sestur, and shall sell fouretene Galons to the Sestur, and not above that price, vpon payne of euery brewere to forfaite for euery Sestour solde contrarye to the tenour of this acte iij s. iiij d. to be levied by wey of distres of the goodes of the offendours, the oone halfe whereof to be to vse of the Comynaltye and Comon box of the saide Citie, and the other halfe to the vse of the Shireyffes of the Citie for the tyme beinge, for levyinge and distraynynge for the same. The brewers which brew [1] "Ale and bear" [1] to sell at the rate of 2*s.* a sextary.

fforasmuche as by the excessiue nomber of ale-wives and Typlers of this Citie, and especiallye of suche as vse boothe to brewe and typle ale or beere, encreasinge dailye more and moore, all kyndes of vicesses be noryshed and the Comon-welthe of this Citie muche ympayred, for reformacion whereof it is ordeigned and inacted at this presente leete and by the aucthoritie of the same that noon inhabitaunte of this Citie from & after the feaste of Penthecoste nexte, whiche shall take vpon hym or theym to brewe any ale or beare, shall sell any of the same ale or beere by retayle. And likewyse that noo typpelar, whiche after the saide feaste of Penthecoste, whiche shal-be aucthorized by Maister Mayour, and the Justices of peace of this Citie, accordinge to the kinges acte of parliamente in that case laitelie maide and provided, to vse typpelinge of ale or beere, except the Inneholders [2] of The excessive number of "Alewyves" leads to the increase of vice, and the decay of the common-wealth; it is ordered that those who brew ale and beer shall not sell it by retail, and that those licensed to sell by retail, except the innholders

[1—1] In a later hand.

[2] See above, p. 771. This order maintains a difference between innholders, where people are lodged, and an ale house, where ale is supplied to any one. See Webb, *Liquor Licensing*, 5.

of the city, shall not brew.

this Citie, shall brewe any ale or beere, vpon payne to Suffer ymprisonemente at the will and pleasure of *Maister* Mayo*ur* and the Justices of peace of this Citie, and to forfaite for eu*er*ye weeke vsynge the same contrarye to this acte xx s. to be levied of the goodes and Catalles of the offendours to the vses aforesaide in forme aforesaide.

The Justices of the peace and the officers of the law, insomuch as the

[1] Whereas the Justices of peace in mooste Counties of this Realme do vse to holde theyre ffowre generall quarter Cessions yerelie on iiij certayne dayes by reasone whereof not onelie the saide Justices, but also all other the kynges Baylives, officers, mynisters & Jurours in eu*er*ye Shyre, settinge aparte all other theyre affayres for that tyme, maye the bettur det*er*myne withe theym-self*es* at thoose dayes to keepe theyre apparaunces and to s*er*ue the kinge accordinge to thayre dueties. And forasmuche as the Justices of peace in this Citie and Countye vse noo certayne dayes to holde theyre iiij generall quarter Cessions, as-well the saide Justices and Shireyffes of the saide Citie, as also the Constables bothe of the Citie and Countye, and other Jurours of the same, geave litle or noo regarde or respecte thereunto, So that many tymes when those Cessions be apointed to be holden and kept, as-well the Justices as Constables and other the kinges officers, and likewise the Jurours, be forthe of the Citie and Shyre abowte theyre owne necessarye busynes, and so the kinge vns*er*ued, where-as yf the Cessions were vsed to be holden at certayne dayes they might muche the bettur directe and order theym-self*es* accordinge to theyre dueties to keepe the same dayes: Wherfore and for the bettur mynistrac*i*on of Justice it is ordeingned (etc.) that the Justices of peace of this Citie and Shyre shall from-hensforthe holde and keepe theyre iiij generall quarter Cessions yerelie vpon the iiij dayes hereafter mencioned, That is to saye, Moundaye Sevennyght nexte after Trynitye Sondaye, Mondaye nexte after Michelmas daye, Mondaye nexte after the Epiphanie of oure Lorde God, and Moundaye next after Lowe Soundaye, certainlye without any alteracion or changinge of any of the saide dayes.

Quarter "Cessions" are not held on any fixed days, are often absent from the city,

it is therefore enacted for the better direction of their affairs and administration of justice

that Quarter Sessions be held at four specified dates.

[1] leaf 414, back.

[Ordained] that the Bochers of this Citie shall from-hensforthe be admitted and alowed agayne to be a Crafte and Companye as they haue been in tymes paste,[2] So that they woll be boundeyn by recognizaunce sufficiently to serve the people and inhabitauntes of this Citie with goode, laufull, hoolesome and sufficient vytaile at all tymes.

The [1]"butchers Alowed to be a Company Againe."[1]

And also it is ordeingned (etc.) that the Boochers of the Country shall from-hensforthe be vtterlye excluded from this Citye and not to haue any suche libertye to sell theyre meate and vytaile here as they haue hadde in tymes paste.

[3]"laudabile *factum*"[3] = a praise-worthy deed. Country butchers to be excluded from the city.

[4][V. f. p. held on Oct. 4, 6 Edw. VI.]

Esson*ia*.[5]

"Civitas Couentr*ie*."

Oct. 4, 1552.

Tho. Gardynour, Cuth. Joynour, Hen. Over, Joh. Tallantes, Joh. Hereford, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Keyvet, Will. Saunders, Ric. Nyclyne, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewall, Will. Hyndeman, Tho. Wheately, Joh. Wayde, Tho. Amorson, Joh. Nethermyll, Will. Westeley, Humf. Reynoldes, Will. Baylye, Joh. Thomson, Ric. Gyller, Joh. Roper, Cris. Tylynge, Edw. Pell, Math. Robson.

Jury of 25.

¶ [Joh. ffitzherbert, mercer, Ric. Wightman, capper.]

Sheriffs.

¶ Item, yt ys ordeyned and enacted at thys present leete by the aucthorytie of the same that noon inhabitaunte of thys Cytye shall haue or vse any Swyne Styes in the Subbarbes of thys Citie beynge within lx foote of any highe weye, or noyonse vnto the kinges leige people, vppon peyne to forfaicte vj s. viij d. to the vse of the Shyreffes of the sayd cytye for the tyme beinge to be leved by dystres etc.

No "Swyne Styes" in the suburbs within 60 feet of the highway.

¶ [Enacted] That non inhabitante of thys Cytye shall permytt & Suffer any blockes, tymber, or other purpresture to be leyd vndur ther walles or any other place in the streites of the Citie ouer & aboue the space of oon weeke, vppon peyne to forfeicte for euery defalte vj s. viij d.

"Blockes, tymber & purpresture in the streites."

[1–1] In a later hand. [2] See above, p. 798 and note.

[3] A hand of (probably) later date. On the exclusiveness of towns see Introduction.

[4] Scribe L; leaf 417. The last page was numbered 414. I do not perceive that any leaves are missing from the MS. The marginal notes are in the hand of Scribe L also.

[5] = Essions. See above, p. 715.

to the vse aforesayd, and besydes that lose & forfeyte the sayde blockes, tymber & other purpresture to any Constable, seriaunte, or other officer of the Citie that wyll sease & take the same.

"Pavementes" from the house-front to the gutter to kept in order by each citizen.

[1]¶ [Enacted] that euery inhabitauntes of thys citie shall sufficentlye repayre & amend ther pavementes in the streetes of the Citie Lyenge before ther howses from ther howse to the Channell before the feaste of Easter next, vpon peyne to forfeyte for euery defalte vj s. viij d., to be leveyd of the goodes of the offenders by dystres to the vse of the Shyreffes of the sayd cytye for the tyme beinge.

¶ [Enacted] That for the better admynystracion & execucion of iustice & the trewe levyenge of all fynes & amerceamentes hence-furthe, That the two Seriauntes of the Citie called the Subbaylyfes shall haue the Collecc*i*on and gatherynge of all thissues, fines and amercymentes hence-furthe Risinge & comynge of all Indictementes, presentmentes at any Cessions, Leetes or otherwise within thys Cytye, and shall make accompte of the same vnto Maister Maiour & Shyreffes of the citie for the tyme beinge at suche tyme as they shal-be thervnto called, savinge suche Resonable allowance for ther peynes therin as by Maister Maiour & the councell of the sayd citie shal-be thought good.

"Collecc*i*on & gathering of Amercimentes."

[2]"No Sweepinge of the streites in time of Raine."[2]

¶ [Enacted] that no person *with*in thys Citie shall from-hencefurthe Swepe ther streites in any Reyne time wher-by to pester[3] the Ryver *with* fylthe & mucke, vppon peyne to forfeicte for euery defalte ij s., the oon half therof to the presentour of the same & the other to the shyrefes of the Cytye etc.

"Tallowe"

¶ [Enacted] That ther shal-be sold no tallowe from hencefurthe from or owte of the Cytye to any stranger vntell the feaste of Easter next comynge, neyther yt shal be sold to any Cytizin *with*in the sayd cytye above fyve shyllinges & foure pence the stonne, and that Candle for the same tyme shall not be sold aboue iij d. the pound,[4] vppon the peyne for the Sellinge of euery stonne of tallowe contrarye

5*s.* 4*d.* a stone, "& Candle" 3*d.* per lb.

[1] leaf 417, back. [2–2] In different hands [3] = obstruct.
[4] The steady rise in prices is to be attributed to the debasement of the coinage.

to thys acte iij s. iiijd., & for eu*e*ry pound of candle xij d. to be levyed by dystres to the vse of the sayd Shyref*es*.

"Greyfreer dongehyll."

[1] ¶ [Enacted] that noon inh*ab*itaunte of thys Citie shall from hencefurthe caste any stoones, Raymell,[2] or other fylthe or purpresture, vppon the Grey-freer dunghyll or neere vnto the same, Excepte good mucke or dunge or cleane yearthe, vppon peyne to forfeicte for eu*e*rye defalte vj s. viij d. to be leved by dystr*es* by the shyreff*es* of the Cytye for the tyme beinge of the good*es* & Cattalles of the offenders to ther owne vse.

The "barbors" pension.

¶ Item, yt ys allso enacted by aucthorytye aforesayd that the barbors of thys Citie shal-be dyscharged of ther penc*i*on of vj s. viij d. that they were heretofore Charged yerelye to paye to the gyrdelers of the same Cytye.[3]

The price of "Ale."

¶ [Enacted] That no bruer of thys Cytye shall sell ther best ale but after the raite of xiiij^{ten} gallons the Cester, & the typler to sell the same after iij d. the gallon, & ij d. ale for xx d. the Cester, vpon peyne of xx s. etc.

The "old act*es* ratified."

¶ [Enacted] That all act*es* & ordynaunc*es* mayd at the last leete for the p*reser*uacion & meyntenaunce of the Coem̃welthe (Commonwealth) of thys Cytye shall stand and remayne in ther strengthe & forces according to theen[ten]t*es* and trewe meanynge of the same.

WILL. JOYNOUR, MAYOR, 1553.

"Ciuitas Couentr*ie*."
Jan. 25.

¶ [Election of Officers.]

[Names of electors all missing.]

Who elect Master Will. Joyner mayor of this city for the year following. . . .

¶ Qui Eligunt in offici*um* Maioris huius C*ivitatis* Magistr*um* Will. Joyner, gresyer, p*ro* hoc Anno se-qu*ente*. . . .

LEETS.

"Ciuitas Coventr*ie*."
Apr. 25, 1553.

[4] ¶ [V. f. p. held before Will. Joyno*ur*, m., Joh. ffitz-herbert, Ric. Wightma*n*, b., on Apr. 25, 7 Edw. VI.[5]]

[1] leaf 418. [2] = builder's rubbish.
[3] See above, p. 710. The yearly pension was to go towards the pageant.
[4] leaf 418, back.
[5] By a curious slip Edw. VI. is here described as "Regina."

¶ Esson*ia*.

Tho. Gardener, Cuth. Joyno*ur*, Chr. Waren, Joh. Saunders, Hen. Over, Joh. Tallont*es*, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Keivet, Will. Saunders, Ric. Nyclyn, Edw. Damport, Ric. Hurte, Ric. Ley, Will. Norton, Tho. Amorsam, Will. Beylie, Rob. Colmon, Joh. Thompson, Hugo Harvye, Tho. Saunders, Hen. Deves, Hen. Collins, Joh. Bollet, Ric. Wano*ur* [? Warnour], Hen. Lyngham, Tho. Tayler.

"Ciuitas Coventrie." Oct. 1, 1553.

[V. f. p. held on Oct. 10, 1 Mary.[1]]

¶ Esson*ia*.

Jury of 25.

[Tho. Gardene*r*, Cuth. Joyno*ur*, Chr. Waren, Hen. Over, Joh. Tallont*es*, Joh. Harford, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Keivet, Will. Saunders, Ric. Nyclyn, Ric. Hurte, Ric. Sewall, Will. Norton, Tho. Amorsam, Will. Westeley, Will. Baylye, Joh. Thompson, Ric. Gyller, Ric. Smy[t]he, Joh. Saunders, Hen. Devyas, Hen. Collyns, Joh. Parker, Joh. Hyndma*n*, Ric. Sewall.

Sheriff's and recorder elected.

¶ [Tho. Dudley, "gene*rosus*," Tho. Kyrvyn, merce*r*.]

And they elected to the office of recorder of this city Joh. Throgmorton, Esq.

Et eliger*unt* in offici*um* Record-ato*ris* huius Ci*uitatis* Joh. Throg-mo*rton*[2] armig*erum*.

[3] "Carpenters a Company."[3]

[4] [Ordained] [5] that the Companye of Carpenters w*ith*in thys Cytye shal-be admytted and allowed as an occupac*i*on & fellowshippe as in tymes past they haue bynne.

The wages of "Carpenters" 8*d*. a day, between Feb. 2 and Nov. 1;

[Enacted] that no m*aister* Carpenter or sawyer shall take for hys wag*es* from Candlemas to Allholuntyd aboue viij d. a daye, And for a yornyma*n* or a Suffycyent s*er*vaunte not aboue vj d. a daye;

of "Tylers & Massons" 7*d*. a day;

And also that no m*aister* Tyler or Roughe Masson durynge the sayd tyme shall take aboue vij d. a daye, & for ther Suffycyent

of "Dawbers"

s*er*vaunte not aboue v d. a daye; And no dawber durynge

[1] For the Queen's titles v. p. 781.

[2] Of the famous family of Throckmorton of Coughton, Warwick, John Throckmorton was son of Sir George, father of Francis, the conspirator, brother of Sir Nicholas, the diplomatist, and uncle to Job, of Martin Marprelate fame. Both John and Nicholas were implicated in Wyatt's rebellion, but John, though condemned to death, was released and restored to Queen Mary's favour. In 1566 he was knighted by Elizabeth. Towards the close of his life he was accused before the Star Chamber of maladministration in his post of Justice of Chester, and declared guilty. He died in 1580.

[3–3] In different hands. [4] leaf 419.

[5] "thaucthorite" occurs here.

the sayd tyme shall take aboue vj d. a daye, nor hys *ser*vaunte aboue v d.; nor no Coem̄ (common) laborer durynge the sayd *ter*me aboue v d. a daye.[1]

6*d.* a day;

"& Coem (common) labor" 5*d.* a day.

[Enacted] that [no] m*aister* Carpenter [&] m*aister* sawyer shall take from Hallontyd vntell Candlemas aboue vj d. for a dayes wage*s*, & for hys *ser*vant not aboue v d. a day; And that no tyler nor Roughe Masson shall take durynge the sayd tyme aboue vj d. a daye, and hys man not aboue iiij d. a day; And no dawber duryng the sayd tyme shall take aboue v d. a daye, & hys m*an* not aboue iiij d.; & no Coem (common) laborer durynge the sayd time aboue iiij d. a daye.

[2] "Rates & wages" [2] for winter. Carpenter, tiler, and mason,

6*d.* a day;

dawber, 5*d.*;

labourer, 4*d.*

[Enacted] that the Carpenters of thys Cytye shall p*er*mitt & suffer all Carpenters of the Countrey to worke in the Cytye takynge of eu*er*y suche carpenters wage*s* of the countrey j d. a wycke, the same to be taken & Receyved of thand*es* of hym that settythe the sayd forren carpenter aworke. And these orders to be obs*er*ued vpon peyn of Imp*reson*ment at the discrec*i*on of M*aister* Meyre & Justice*s* of peace of thys Cytye.[3]

The "forren Carpenters" may work in the city, but their employers are to take 1*d.* a week from each one's wages (?) to be paid to the carpenters' craft.

[Enacted] that no p*er*son w*ith*in thys Cyty of what degree so-eu*er* he be shall geve to any of the sayd p*er*sonnes aboue the wage*s* aforesayd, vpon peyne to forfeycte for eu*er*y defalte vj s. viij d., & Lykewise the taker iij s. iiij d., to be Leveyd to the vse of the Shyrryf*es* of thys Cytye.

"Nota penn." None to give workmen higher wages than according to the established rates.

[Enacted] That all Carpenters, Massons, tylers, dawbers, & allso all kynd of laborers w*ith*in thys Cytye Lackynge worke shall assemble themselves at fyve of the clocke in the mornynge in the som*er* tyme w*ith* ther tooles in *ther* hand*es* at the Broide-yate accordinge as in tymes paste they haue donne to thentente suche as lacke workemen may fynd them ther, and that non of them be found idell at whome or in any ale house, vpon peyne of Imp*reson*ment.

The "assemblyng of workemen at *the* Broid-yate" for hire.

[4] [Enacted] that the foren bochers shall haue Lib*er*tie to brynge victuell in-to thys Cytye wickely on the

The "foren bochers" are to be admitted on Fridays.

[1] Cf. the wages of the year 1421 on p. 21, and note the rise that has taken place during the intervening period.

[2–2] In a later hand. [3] Cf. the previous order, p. 792.

[4] leaf 419, back.

Frydaye & to sell the same in two place*s*, that ys to seye, in the Fleete-streite & Jordan-well, and on non other dayes.[1]

Order concerning the "kyllinge of fleshe."

[Enacted] that non inha*b*itaunte of thys Cytye other then a bocher shall kyll any kynd of fleshe to sell, vpon peyne of iij s. iiij d. for eue*r*y defalte.

All "bruers" to sell

[Enacted] That eue*r*y bruer in thys Cytye after the fyrst daye of Maye next shall sell ther ale after xiiij gallons to the Cestre, & after the Raite of ij s. the Cestre & not aboue; and the typler to sell yt after the raite of ij d. the gallon, vpon peyne of eue*r*y bruer or typler offendinge to the Contrarye to forfeicte for eue*r*y defalte vj s. viij d. to be levyed by distres etc., the oon half therof to the shyrrefe*s*, xx d. thereof to the Co*m*em[2] boxe, & xx d. thereof to the p*r*esenter, and bysyde*s* that to suffer imp*r*eso*n*ment etc., & that all typlers aforesayd shall sell ther ale owte of ther howses at the p*r*i*s*es aforesayd, that ys to sey, ij d. the gallon.

ale at 2*s*. the sextary, and "typlers" at 2*d*. the gallon.

Keepers of "ale-howses" are forbidden to permit inhabitants to drink in their houses except on a market day in a stranger's company.

[Enacted] That no typler within thys Cytye shall not suffer any inha*b*itaunte of the Cytye to have Resorte into ther howses to eate and drynke vnles yt be on the ma*r*ket daye & feyre tyme in the Compayny of an honeste stranger,[3] vpon peyne to forfeicte for eue*r*y defalte x s., wherof iij s. iiij d. to the p*r*esenter, iij s. iiij d. to the shyrryfe*s*, & iij s. iiij d. to the Coem̄ (common) boxe to be Leveyd by distres etc.

"Inholders" are forbidden to permit labourers to drink or play in their inns.

[Enacted] That no Inholder within thys Cytye shall not p*er*mytt or suffer any handy-Craft*es*-ma*n*, laborer, yornyman or aprentyzes of thys Cytye to haue Resorte or to be conv*u*rsaunte in hys howse to eate or drynke or pleye vnles yt be in Company of a stranger and then not to pleye, vpon peyne of x s. for eue*r*y defalte, wherof iij s. iiij d. to the shyrryfe*s*, iij s. iiij d. to the coem̄ box, & iij s. iiij d. to the p*r*esento*u*r etc.

Ordered that [4]"no brewer [is] to ffeitch water at the Conduits."[4]

[Enacted] That no coem̄ (common) bruer nor malte-maker w*ith*-in thys Cyte shall not from-hence-furthe fetche eny water at the Condytte*s* wherw*ith* to brewe or

[1] See above, p. 803. [2] *i. e.* common.

[3] In obedience most likely to the time-honoured custom of drinking over the conclusion of a bargain. For other restrictions see above, p. 786.

[4—4] In different hands.

to make malte, vppon peyne to forfeycte for eu*e*ry defalte xx s., wherof vj s. viij d. to be to the shyrryf*es*, vj s. viij d. to the p*re*senters of the defalte, & vj s. viij d. to the coem̄ (common) boxe, toward*es* the rep*ara*cions of the Condytt*es*, to be Leveyd by distr*es* etc. ymedyatly after the p*ro*phe[1] of the offence before M*aist*er Meyer etc.[2]

WILL. NORTON, MAYOR, 1554.

LEETS.

[3][V. f. p. held before Will. Norton, m., Tho. Dudley, Tho. Kyrvyn, b., on Apr. 24, 1 Mary.[4]

"Ciuitas Couentr*ie*." Apr. 4, 1554.

Essoni*a*.

Tho. Gardener, Cutheb. Joyner, Chr. Waren, Joh. Tallant*es*, Joh. Hareford, Jac. Rogers, Ric. Nyclyn, Ric. Hurte, Will. Joyner, Ric. Ley, Ric. Sewell, Tho. Wheateley, Tho. Amorson, Joh. Nethermyll, Will. Westeley, Will. Baylye, Ric. Gillar, Ric. Smythe, Tho. Saunders, Ric. Wightm*an*, Oliuer Lynd, ffran. Wayd, Will. Smalewood, Nic. Hopkins.

Jury.

[Enacted] That no ale-bruer nor bere-bruer w*ith*in thys Cytye shall from and after the feaste of Penticoste next sell any ale or bere aboue the p*re*ce of ij s. the Cester, & eu*e*ry Cester to conteign xiiij galones, vppon peine to forfeicte for eu*e*ry Cester x s., the same forfeicture to be Levied & taken of the good*es* of the offenders by the shyrryf*es* of the Cytye for the tyme beinge to ther owne vse ymedyatly after p*ro*fe therof mayd by wytnes or otherweyes before the Mayer of the sayd Cytye for the tyme beinge.

The "ale-bruers & bere-bruers" to sell ale at 2*s*. the sextary.

[1] = proof.

[2] On Nov. 20 of this year the mayor sent up to the Council Baldwin Clere, weaver, Joh. Careles, weaver, Tho. Wylcockes, fishmonger, and Ric. Astelyn, haberdasher, for "lewd and seditious behaviour on All Hallow Day last past." Careles died in the King's Bench prison in 1556. Astelyn was a member of a leading family in the city.—*Vict. County Hist. Warw.*, II. 33. He was probably soon released, as a Ric. Aslyn and one Francis are mentioned as being interviewed by an emissary of Suffolk in the January of the succeeding year, when an attempt was made to seize Coventry for the Protestants.—*ib.* 442-3.

[3] leaf 420.

[4] For the Queen's titles, v. above, p. 781. The night of the 29-30 January in this year was marked by much disturbance, and an abortive attempt on the part of the Duke of Suffolk's—the Protestant—party to seize the city.

Every "Typler" to sell no ale above 3*d.* the gallon,

And that no typler of thys Cytye from-hence-furthe shall sell eny ale or bere, aboue the Raite of iij d. the galon, vppon peyne to forfeicte for eu*e*ry defalte iij s. iiij d. to be Levyed and taken of the goode*s* of the offenders in forme aforesayd to the vse aforesayd: And allso that no typler of this Cytye shall from and after the feaste of the Natiuitie of seynt John Baptiste next comynge sell eny ale or beare by eny other measures then by pynte*s*, quarte*s*, pottells or galons beinge sealed[1] by the officer assigned for the same, vppon peyne to forfeicte for eu*e*ry defalte vj s. viij d. to be levyed and taken in forme aforesayd to the vse aforesayd. And that yt shal-be laufull to eu*e*ry p*er*son & p*er*sones seinge or findinge eny ale or beare sold by eny other mesures then as ys aforesayd, or by mesures not sealed to breake the same or to sease & take them to hys & theyr owne vse.

and by measures duly tested and sealed.

"Seasure of measures or breakinge of the same," if they are unlawful ones, is allowable.

The "handy-craftesmen."

[Enacted] that the acte mayd at the laste Leete con-ce*r*nynge daylye wage*s* of Masson*s*, Carpenters, tylers, & other Laborers & handy-crafte*s*men shall stand and remayne in full strength and effecte in all poynte*s* accordinge to the teno*u*r and purporte of the same acte: And that all other acte*s* mayd for prese*r*uac*i*on of the coem-welthe[2] of thys Cytye shall stand & remayne in their forces accordinge to the purporte of the same.

A "confirmacion of old actes."

Against "breakinge of headges."

[3][Enacted] that no p*er*son take vppon them to breake eny headge*s* of Lam*m*as pastures or other aboute thys Cytye, or carye awey eny headge-wood of the same, vppon peyne of ymp*r*eso*n*me*n*t & to forfeicte for eu*e*ry defaulte iij s. iiij d.

Against laying any filth near the "yates or barres of thys Cytye."

Allso that no p*er*son lay eny dunge or fylthe nighe or abowte the gate*s* or the barres of thys Cytye, vppon peyne to forfeicte for eu*e*ry defalte vj s. viij d. And that all suche p*er*sones that haue of laite leyd eny dunge or fylthe nighe vnto the sayd gaite*s* or barres shall take & carry awey the same before Wytsontyde next, vppon the same peyne.

Allso yt ys further enacted (etc.) That no p*er*son or

[1] See Shakespeare, *Taming of the Shrew*, Introd. ii.

> . . . "and rail upon the hostess of the house,
> And say you would present her at the Leet,
> Because she brought stone-jugs and no sealed quarts."

[2] *i. e.* commonwealth. [3] leaf 420, back.

*per*sones of thys Cytye shall from hence-furthe ley or water eny hempe or flax in the Ryver of Shyrborne, vppon peyne to forfeicte for eu*er*y tyme so doinge xl shyllinge*s*. Against laying "hempe & flaxe" in the river.

It is allso enacted by aucthorytie aforesayd That all the bochers of thys Cytye shall ley furthe in the street*es* ther hydes to be sold, vppon the Frydaye before seven of the clocke in the mornynge, & no daye ells in the wycke, nor shall not sell eny hyde to eny tanner or eny other man before nyne of the clocke of the same Frydaye, vppon peyne to forfeicte for eu*er*y hyde & offence vj s. viij d. to be Levyed of ther goode*s* by wey of dystres, & the oon half of all the forfeictures to the fynder or presenter of the same, & the other half to the shyrryf*es* of thys City for the tyme being. An order for "sellinge of hides" on Fridays only, and after 9 o'clock.

Allso that no Chaundeler of thys Cytye shall sell eny tallowe to the corvic*er* nor to the Curriour, but shall converte the same tallowe to Candle-makinge, vppon peyne to forfeicte vj s. viij d., the half therof to the vse of the Shyrryf*es* etc., and the other half to the vse of the fyrste fynder of the same. Every "Chaundeler" to make his tallow into candles.

THOMAS RYLEY, MAYOR, 1555.

EASTER LEET.

"Ciuitas Couentrie." May 14, 1555.

[1][V. f. p. held before Tho. Ryley,[2] m., Ric. Hopkins,[3] Will. Hindeman, b., May 14, 1 & 2 Philip & Mary.]

Essonia.

Tho. Gardener, Cuth. Joyner, Chr. Waren, Hen. Over, Joh. Tallantes, Joh. Hereford, Jac. Rogers, Tho. Kevet, Ric. Nyclyn, Will. Norton, Ric. Hurte, Will. Joyner,

[1] leaf 422.

[2] This mayor must have had Protestant leanings, as he sent to warn John Glover of his intended arrest. John escaped, but his brother Robert—the martyr—was taken. On the other hand, Christopher Waren, at whose house the captive Duke of Suffolk lodged, was a Catholic partisan. Foxe, *Martyrs*, VII. 393.

[3] Probably of the Hopkins' family of Palace Yard, Coventry. The sheriff was imprisoned this year in the Fleet, being "accused," says Foxe, "of matter pertaining to religion." He appears to have sent to a thief in prison, ready to be hanged, "a certain English book of Scripture for his spiritual comfort." After his release from prison he and his family went to Basle, where he lived until after Mary's death, being "a comfortable reliever of other English exiles." A letter to him from the martyr, John Bradford, is given in Foxe. See *Martyrs*, VII. 249-50.

Ric. Ley, Ric. Shewell, Tho. Wheateley, Tho. Amorsame, Will. Westeley, Will. Beyly, Joh. Thompson, Ric. Giller, Hugo Harvye, Tho. Saunders, Ric. Wightman, Tho. Dudley, Tho. Kervyn, Joh. Gosselyn, Tho. Syde, Will. Smalewood.

An order against "dryenge of malte."

[Enacted] that non inhabitant of thys Cyty shall from-hence-furthe after the feaste of All Seynctes next drye any mallte with strawe or furres within the walles of thys Cytye, vppon peyne to forfeicte for euery defalte xl s. to the vse of the shyrryfes to be Levyed by distresse etc.

No brewer, malt-maker and fish-monger to take from the "Condyte" any "water."

Item, no Coem (common) bruer, no malt-maker or fisshemonger shall from-hence-furthe fetche eny water at the coundictes within thys Cytye to thentente therwith to make malt, brewe, or water fysshe,[1] [or 20*s.* fine each time, levied in the form and applied to the use above-written.]

The "Constables" are to enforce this act.

And that euerye constable shall endevour hymself to se the execucion of thys acte, vppon peyne of vj s. viij d.

No one to eat or drink in an ale-house during "seruyce tyme" on the Sabbath.

Allso that no ale-howse keeper or other vytayler in thys Cytye soeffer eny inhabitauntes of the Cytye to eate or drynke in ther howses in service tyme on the Sabott daye, vpon peyne to forfeite for euerye defalte xx s., vt supra.

Against "admytinge of estrangers"

Item, that non inhabitaunte of thys Cytye do admytt eny stranger to inhabite within thys Cytye Excepte the same estranger be fyrste brought to [?by] the Constable of the ward wher he shall inhabite before Maister Meyre or the alderman of the ward and by them examynyed & tryed whether he be a man meite to inhabite ther or not, vppon peyne to forfeicte xl s. vt supra.[2] And yf eny Constable do soeffer eny such to inhabite by the space of a moneythe that then he for hys neciigens to forfeicte for euerye defalte vj s. viij d.

without they are examined before the mayor or an alderman and pronounced satisfactory.

"Edwardes, bocher," to pay his fine to the fellowship.

[Enacted] that Joh. Edwardes, bocher, shall paye to the Maister of the fellowshippe of bochers for a fyne of liij s. iiij d.,[3] and all other paymentes quarterlye for hys brotherwod as other bochers doo.

[Enacted] that asewell the meyre & shyrryfes for the tyme beinge, as all other that haue bynne meyres &

[1] This probably applies particularly to the soaking of stockfish in water.

[2] See above, p. 785.

[3] A very high fine.

shyrryf*es*, & ther wyfes shall were ther scarlet gownes vppon principall dayes & dayes accustomed accordinge to the auncyent vse, vppon peyne of xx s. "Skarlet gownes."

[1] Allso that eu*ery* alderman shall were eu*ery* Sondaye & other principall dayes a velvet typpet vpon peyne of x s. Every [2] "alderman to wear tippets vpon payne of x s." [2]

Allso that the shyrryf*es* for the tyme beinge shall at all tymes when they be owte of ther howses [3] shall haue ther s*er*geant*es* w*ith* ther mac*es* to goo before them & ther yomen after them, vppon peyne to forfeicte for eu*ery* defalte xx s. [2] "Shyrryfes serjants to bear ther maces before them."

Allso that eu*ery* alderman & shyrryf beinge able to Ride shall accompanye M*aister* Meyre & ryde w*ith* hym in the watche on Mydsomer nyght in ther scarlet, & eu*ery* of them to haue a man weytinge vppon hym w*ith* torche-light, vppon peyne of xx s.[4] "Mydsomer night."

[1] leaf 422, back. [2] In different hands.
[3] Deletions follow. [4] See Sharp, *Mysteries*, pp. 174, *sqq.*

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